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Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support a proposal to impose a new $6.50 charge on each airline passenger arriving in the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

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Aqua Turns 22

Aqua Resort Club is marking 22 years of exceptional service this July.

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30 Years

San Vicente Elementary School principal Joaquina Salas is honored for 30 years of service.

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Javier Colon is crowned the inaugural winner of "The Voice," NBC's new singing contest.

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Benavente resigns from House

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» **Governor to appoint next highest vote-getter from Precinct 1 as replacement**
» **Reyes announces he's not seeking re-election**

With his wife of 32 years beside him, House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) announced yesterday his resignation as a lawmaker effective July 16 to spend more time with his family.

"After over 20 years in politics, I feel that it's really time for me to pay greater attention to my family," Benavente said in a news briefing amid the presence of family, friends, colleagues, and supporters in the House chamber.

Benavente, one of the longest serving lawmakers, spent more than 15 years in the Legislature as a speaker, minority leader, and member. He served as lieutenant governor from 2002 to 2006 to then governor Juan N. Babauta.

His colleagues and other elected officials described Benavente's resignation

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), right front, announces his resignation as House member effective July 16, during yesterday's news conference with his wife Vicky beside him along with colleagues from the House and Senate.

'Drug abuse exists at DPS'

» **Mafnas says he is now addressing drug abuse concern**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police Commissioner Ramon Mafnas admitted yesterday the existence of drug abuse by some Department of Public Safety personnel and that he is now in the process of addressing this concern.

In fact, Mafnas said he will be requiring his command staff to march over to the laboratory for random

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DPS employee refuses to undergo lie detector test

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police Commissioner Ramon Mafnas confirmed yesterday that a Department of Public Safety personnel had refused to undergo a lie detector test as part of investigation into the disappearance of sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk.

Mafnas refused, however, to confirm or deny if that DPS employee is among those on investigators' top list of persons

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GTC, Tinian High are top performing schools

» **Highest SAT-10 scores for school year**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School and Tinian High School have been named the islands' top performing public schools this school year after the two surpassed the national percentile mark in the Stanford Assessment Test, or SAT-10.

GTC principal Charlotte Camacho, Tinian High principal Julian Hofschneider, and vice principal Eric San Nicolas were awarded plaques of exemplary performance during yesterday's Board of Education meeting.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan disclosed that GTC emerged first place in the 50th percentile rank after it topped the SAT 10 scores in three grade levels: 50 percentile at third grade; 68 percentile at fifth grade; and 72 percentile at sixth grade.

Tinian High School scored a 50 percentile mark for ninth grade and 51 percentile for 11th grade.

See GTC on Page 4

Local

Study: Death rate from heart attack higher in US territories

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By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

A study conducted by the Yale School of Medicine showed that a person's chances of dying from a heart attack is higher in the U.S. territories than the U.S. mainland, mainly due to inadequate resources for health care.

The research paper stated that there is a 17 percent greater risk of dying after a heart attack if patients are treated in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands than in hospitals in the United States.

Led by Marcella Nunez-Smith, M.D., assistant professor at Yale School of Medicine, researchers used data from Medicare to study all patients suffering from a heart attack and who were admitted to 57 hospitals in the territories. These data were compared to heart attack patients admitted to 4,799 hospitals in the U.S. between July 2005 and June 2008.

The study found that the risk of death within 30 days after a heart attack was substantially higher for patients in all of the territories.

The researchers admitted being shocked by these findings. "These are serious and substantial differences and translates into increased lives lost in the U.S. territories," said Smith.

The research findings were recently published in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

The study showed that many U.S. citizens living in the territories are at a major healthcare disadvantage.

Smith and her colleagues sought explanations for these findings by exploring whether patients overall just got sicker in the U.S. territories, but admitted that they found no answers to their questions.

Researchers indicated that there's a need for increased resources in territories to improve the quality of patient care. Smith cited the increase in Medicare reimbursement as among the areas to be improved after finding out that hospitals in these territories have the lowest reimbursement rates.

Researchers disclosed their plan to do follow-up work with hospitals in the U.S. territories and policy makers to identify opportunities to improve health outcomes for people who live, work, and play in the territories.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Public Health Secretary Kevin Villagomez but he did not immediately respond to email inquiries.

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McDonald's introduces Mango Pineapple Smoothie

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Quench your thirst with a tropical beverage this summer as McDonald's Saipan launches today a new flavor to its smoothie lineup, the Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie.

The Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie features A fusion of sweet ripe mango and juicy pineapple blended with creamy, low-fat yogurt and ice. Customers can request to buy the smoothie without the yogurt.

The latest addition to the smoothie selection is available in three sizes that are all reasonably priced: small size of 12 oz for $3.75, medium size of 16 oz for $4.50, and large size of 22 oz for $5.25.

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu said Wednesday that a lot of their customers have been asking for the Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie, which was launched in the U.S. mainland at an earlier date.

"Our customers saw the Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie in television commercials and print ads and they've been asking about it. Now it's finally here," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Ayuyu said that the launching of the refreshingly delicious Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie comes with a very exciting promotion for all McDonald's Saipan patrons.

She said they are offering the small 12 oz size Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie on a buy-one-get-one deal for a limited time.

"We want to encourage our customers to try out the new Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie that's perfect for the summer," said Ayuyu. "We know that it's going to be another sensation, just like the Strawberry Banana and Wild Berry Smoothies."

Ayuyu said all smoothies are available in their Middle Road and Garapan locations.

Other exciting promos

Aside from the smoothie deal, Ayuyu disclosed that they have other exciting promotions for breakfast, lunch, and dinner to say a heartfelt "thank you" to all those who have patronized McDonald's Saipan through the years.

Customers who buy the Hotcake Sausage—3-pc hotcake and 1-pc sausage for $4—can get another Hotcake Sausage for free and can buy a medium 21-oz soda drink for only $1.

Meanwhile, buyers of the Quarter Pounder Meal can get a free Quarter Pounder sandwich. They also have the option to buy a medium 21-oz soda drink for just $1.

Ayuyu noted that the Hotcake Sausage deal is only available at the Middle Road store while the Quarter Pounder promo is offered in both locations.

"I hope the community will visit our stores and take advantage of our specials. We created these promotions for our customers to enjoy. We certainly value their continued patronage," added Ayuyu.

McDonald's Saipan Chalan Pale Arnold Middle Road store is open from 6:30am to 10pm every day while the Garapan Express is open 24 hours daily.

For orders or more information, call Garapan Express at 233-8577, Chalan Pale Arnold Middle Road branch at 235-8577 or email mcdonalds@pticom.com.

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu and daughter Maria hold samples of the Mango Pineapple Real Fruit Smoothie, the latest addition to McDonald's smoothie selection that is now available in both Garapan Express and Middle Road locations. The new flavor features the delightful fusion of sweet ripe mango and juicy pineapple, blended with creamy, low-fat yogurt and ice. BETH DEL ROSARIO

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Inter-island medical referral resumes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rota and Tinian medical referral patients can now heave a sigh of relief following Freedom Air's assurance yesterday it will immediately resume transporting patients to Saipan as the government honors its obligation to the airline.

The Rota and Tinian Legislative Delegations jointly held a public hearing yesterday morning on the partial suspension of inter-island medical referrals, which forced Rota and Tinian medical referral patients to pay for their own fare to seek medical help on Saipan.

Freedom Air manager Dennis Cruz told senators that the airline is lifting its temporary suspension on transporting medical referral patients, provided that the airline will be given a government travel request or authorization a week after the actual transport of the patient.

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson said that Freedom Air earlier claimed that the government owes it some $122,000 for transporting Rota and Tinian patients to and from Saipan. After negotiations, the "unresolved" figure is down to $24,000, Larson said, representing past due obligations dating back two or three years ago.

Larson said Finance is now current in its payment, following yesterday's fresh payment of some $47,000 to Freedom Air.

Medical referral administrator Ron Sablan said the issue of payments and transporting patients is "workable."

Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, and Tinian Health Center's Freddie Hofschneider were also at the hearing.

Sablan said patients who paid for their own fare to Saipan will be reimbursed later.

Another public hearing on the inter-island medical referral will be held by end of July.

Senate overrides Fitial's veto of CIP wage bill

» OKs pushing back CHC privatization to Oct. 1

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

By a vote of 8-0 with one abstention, the Senate overrode yesterday Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's veto of a bill seeking to pay employees working on federally funded capital improvement projects at least the U.S. minimum wage of $7.25 an hour.

This is the Senate's third override of a governor's veto in less than three weeks.

Senate Bill 17-56, Senate Draft 1, now goes to the House of Representatives for action.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), author of the bill, said that paying employees working on CIPs a federal minimum wage was done in the past, and gave resident workers an incentive to work on Section 702-funded projects.

The CNMI's current minimum wage is $5.05 an hour.

Of the nine senators, only Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan) abstained from supporting the override.

Fitial vetoed the bill on Monday, some two years after vetoing a similar bill. He said provisions under the Fair Labor Standards Act apply to the CNMI so it's unnecessary to have this bill.

Deadline extension

The Senate also passed a bill amending the law that requires the Department of Public Health to become a healthcare corporation by July 15, 2011.

The amendment pushes back the transition date to Oct. 1, 2011, to coincide with the new fiscal year. This would allow the Executive Branch to address budgetary concerns.

Senate Bill 17-80, introduced by Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), passed by a vote of 9-0.

Torres, in an interview, said another major reason for amending Public Law 16-51 is to create a "governing board of trustees" instead of an "advisory board."

"This will improve accountability and give more weight to the board's decision," he said. SB 17-80 now goes to the House for action.

Govendo: 2009 ruling in Fund lawsuit was final judgment

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo stated that the ruling he issued in 2009 about how much the CNMI government owes the NMI Retirement Fund was a final judgment.

In a status hearing Wednesday, Govendo said he keeps hearing statements that because the Fund's lawsuit against the administration was decided by default, there is no final judgment.

"That is ridiculous; a final judgment was issued on June 29, 2009," Govendo said.

In that judgment, Govendo ruled that the CNMI government owes the Fund $231.6 million in damages and that the law suspending government contributions to the Fund is unconstitutional. As of February 2011, the government's debt has reportedly grown to $317 million.

The judge pointed out that status hearings are to push for results and to hear progress reports.

Assistant attorney general Meaghan Hassel-Shearer, counsel for the government, asked the court to include language in its order that the June 29, 2009, order was a final judgment and the Fund can file a writ of execution to attach government property.

Govendo granted the request and directed Fund counsel Viola Alepuyo to include that language in the draft order for him to sign.

Govendo also agreed to include in the order language that the government must provide the Fund a list of assets that might be given to the Fund in partial payment of what is owed. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

GTC

From Page 1

SAT 10 is a norm reference test that measures student learning in all areas, including core subjects like English, math, science, social studies, and reading. This school year, the national percentile target was 50 percentile in the complete battery test.

At the elementary level, tests are conducted among third, fifth, and sixth grades while eight graders are tested for middle school. For high school, SAT-10 is conducted in the 9th and 11th grades.

According to GTC's Camacho, 30 students were tested for sixth grade; 41 students for fifth grade; and 34 students for third grade.

She said this was the first time GTC got the highest SAT 10 scores in all three grades tested. In the past five years, the school ranked either first or second in different grade levels.

"We really owe it to our teachers. They're very professional and have high regard in the standard instruction. We're a team working together to really impact student learning," she told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Tinian High's Hofschneider said that about 40 to 50 students were tested for both ninth and 11th grades. He said Marianas High School tied with Tinian High in the 11th grade with a 51 percentile mark. "Compared to last year, we did well this year and we will continue to improve."

RESIGNS

From Page 1

as a "big loss" to Capital Hill and to the public, but respected his decision to devote his time with his wife Vicky and children Jacob, Diana, James, and Dolores.

Senators and House members said Benavente "is one of the best leaders" in the CNMI, one with a deep understanding and knowledge of parliament procedures, a good negotiator, and one that puts the interest of the public before anyone and everything else.

Benavente said he's not totally closing his doors to politics. He might run as lieutenant governor in the next general election.

After his resignation, he said he will work in the private sector.

'No special election needed'

Benavente said he was eligible to retire as early as April this year but decided to delay his retirement until after serving half of his term so that the CNMI government won't have to spend for a special election to fill the vacancy his resignation will create.

Article II Section 9 of the NMI Constitution says that when less than one-half of the term remains, the governor shall fill the vacancy by appointing the unsuccessful candidate for the office in the last election who received the largest number of votes and is willing to serve or, if no candidate is available, a person qualified for the office from the district represented.

"As such, once Rep. Diego Benavente resigns, the governor will then appoint the next candidate who received the largest number of votes who is willing to serve," said acting pres secretary Teresa Kim yesterday.

That person is former representative Janet Maratita, who is currently program manager for the Department of Public Health's Diabetes and Non-Communicable Disease Control.

Mararita, who was present at the news briefing, later told reporters that, while she's torn between continuing with her job at DPH and becoming a lawmaker again, "I just have to accept when duty calls."

She ran and won under the Covenant Party and served in the 14th House of Representatives. In the 2009 election, she ran under the Republican Party and lost to Benavente.

Both House majority and minority members hope that Maratita would join them.

'A big loss'

Prior to the news briefing, Benavente submitted his resignation letter to House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan).

"With this letter, I am officially notifying the governor of my resignation and allowing for a replacement of my seat in the 17th House of Representatives," Benavente said in the two-page letter.

Acting press secretary Kim said "the administration regrets that Rep. Benavente, a CNMI leader for many years in various capacities, has decided to resign."

"It will be a great loss to the political landscape of our islands. We will miss him," she added.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) said "it' a real sad day for us." He said no matter how painful it is to see Benavente resign, he and his colleagues respect his decision.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said he has "mixed feelings" about Benavente's resignation—a sentiment that Benavente himself shares but he said it's time to turn his focus to his family's welfare.

"A decision to retire is a difficult decision," Benavente said.

Upon learning of Benavente's decision, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) tried to convince his colleague to change his mind.

"He's one of the best leaders I've seen in office. I will miss his deep knowledge of parliament procedures… He always keeps the public in mind," he said.

Benavente thanked his family, supporters, his colleagues in the minority, the whole House of Representatives, the Senate, his staff, the Legislative Bureau, his constituents, the media and the public for giving him the opportunity to serve for more than 20 years.

Benavente, who came from a family of fishermen, served in the 7th through 12th Legislatures. Among his most recent major bills is the CNMI's shark fin ban law, which gained regional and national recognition.

In related news, Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) also announced during the news conference that he won't be seeking re-election at the end of his term and will also devote his time to his family.

DRUG

From Page 1

drug testing.

He said he is not aware of how bad the drug use problem in the department is but knows it exists.

Mafnas said drug tests were conducted at DPS under the term of former commissioner Santiago Tudela and the "results were not pleasant."

"It does exist and I hope to address that particular concern and help these people. I will give them the opportunity for counseling and treatment, especially those who admit to drug use," he said.

As soon as his organizational restructuring at DPS is finalized, Mafnas said he will be issuing a directive to encourage all law enforcement officers, firefighters, and civilian staff to step forward if they are using drugs.

He wants these personnel to sign a declaration admitting their drug use and agreeing to undergo counseling and treatment.

"They will then agree to a voluntary drug test at their own expense after treatment and counseling. And then three months down the line, they will be again subjected to a drug test and another one again three months down the line," he said.

If all drugs tests turn out negative, these employees will be retained; if results come back positive, they will be terminated, Mafnas said.

Those who refuse to step forward will be subjected to a drug test, as permitted by law or policy without violating the Civil Service Commission's standards and policies.

Those whose tests will return positive, Mafnas said, will not be given the opportunity for treatment and counseling, as they will be immediately terminated

"We're law enforcement officers. There should be no tolerance on drug abuse," he said.

Mafnas encouraged all other personnel at DPS and in other departments to think about drug abuse and to assess and evaluate the consequences.

"Those who refuse to cooperate or help us help them, we would terminate them, following [Office of Personnel Management's] recommendation and Civil Service," he said.

DPS

From Page 1

of interest in the case. "I would like to respect the privacy of the individual for now," he said.

In all cases, Mafnas said, there will be persons of interests so they are trying to clear these individuals and check them off the list to narrow down the search or investigative process. It is therefore difficult for investigators to clear an individual from the list if that person does not cooperate and submit himself to a polygraph test, he added.

"We are focusing on all leads and persons of interests. We continue to be hopeful in gathering information that is significant," he said.

With respect to the searches, Mafnas said they are mindful of the people they choose to include in the operations. "That's why we eliminated people who are charged with sex offenses. A convicted sex offender won't be allowed to be a part of the search party," he said.

Police officer Jason Tarkong said anybody who has a criminal history and on the list of sex offenders were not allowed to join the volunteers in the searches.

Police started doing underwater searches on Wednesday. This week, Mafnas said, they have a targeted search area but they opted not to identify the area because they want to protect the site.

"We don't want people to go out there and disturb the area or try to conduct the search themselves and possibly compromise any evidence that may be present," he said.

Yesterday, Mafnas said he sent people to look at certain areas on Saipan.

"We will not give up on this. We will continue to look into every lead that is given us and any person with information should call us immediately. We will jump at any information that we believe is significant or reliable," he said.

Shell follows Mobil's 10-cent gas price reduction

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Shell Marianas dropped its gasoline prices by 10 cents a gallon yesterday, mirroring Mobil Oil Marianas' pump price changes on Tuesday afternoon.

Regular unleaded gasoline at Shell and Mobil service stations on Saipan is now $4.659 a gallon, which is still not far from the CNMI's current minimum wage of $5.05 an hour.

Super unleaded gasoline now costs $4.979 a gallon.

Diesel is now $5.119 a gallon.

Tony Sison, a resident of Gualo Rai, said a 10-cent gas price cut will provide relief but he's hoping that the prices will further go down.

"It's harder to budget these days. Gas prices, power bills, food prices are high and I'm only a minimum wage worker," Sison said in an interview while he was putting $8 regular unleaded gasoline on his sedan at a Shell service station in Puerto Rico yesterday afternoon.

This week's 10-cent rollback brings to 20 cents the total gas price reduction in a month. The last 10-cent rollback was on May 26.

The price of crude oil now hovers near $93 per barrel compared to over $100 per barrel weeks ago, resulting in pump price cuts.

Despite the 20-cent total rollback in May and June, CNMI gas prices are still among the highest in the United States.

Retail pump prices are affected by a combination of factors, which include internationally traded wholesale prices, operating and capital cost, distribution costs, taxes and duties, currency exchange rates, and market competition.

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Aqua Resort Club turns 22

Aqua Resort Club is marking 22 years of giving exceptional service on Saipan this July.

To commemorate the occasion, this tropical haven situated in the quiet and serene neighborhood of Achugao is offering special promotions for its guests.

A one-night stay at any of their spacious Deluxe Garden View Rooms goes for only $100 plus 10 percent tax. This is inclusive of breakfast for two, a free extra bed, early check-in (10am) and late check-out (2pm) option, and a 40-percent discount on spa services.

Local patrons can also take advantage of the 25 percent discount at any of the hotel's buffets, which include Seafood Night on Mondays and Fridays, Steak Night on Saturdays, and the Sunday Brunch.

For the whole month of July, Aqua Resort Club's gift shop will give a 20-percent discount on every purchase of the mouth-watering Dreyer's ice cream.

All anniversary promotions are valid from July 1 to 31.

"It has been 22 years since Aqua Resort Club came into existence and opened its doors to Saipan for the first time," said Sachiko N. Mafnas, director of Operation. "Our special anniversary promotions have been created to show our appreciation to all of you."

Vital to the hotel's operations, Mafnas said, are the staff who have helped build Aqua Resort Club's reputation through the years. "Our employees are equally important. With their warm hospitality, customers continue to come back to us. We all work as a team," she said. The hotel resort will have a staff recognition this July.

For reservations or more information, call 322-1234. ***(Clarissa David)***

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Aqua Resort Club employees pose for a group photo at the hotel lobby yesterday morning. Aqua Resort Club is celebrating its 22nd anniversary with promotions to thank its customers through the years.

WIC Program offers Free Oral Health Education and Fluoride Varnish Treatment

WHO
Children ages 1 to 5 years old

WHEN
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Monday through Friday
8:30am to 4:00pm
(Except Austerity Friday)

WHERE
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CAB T-BONE STEAK

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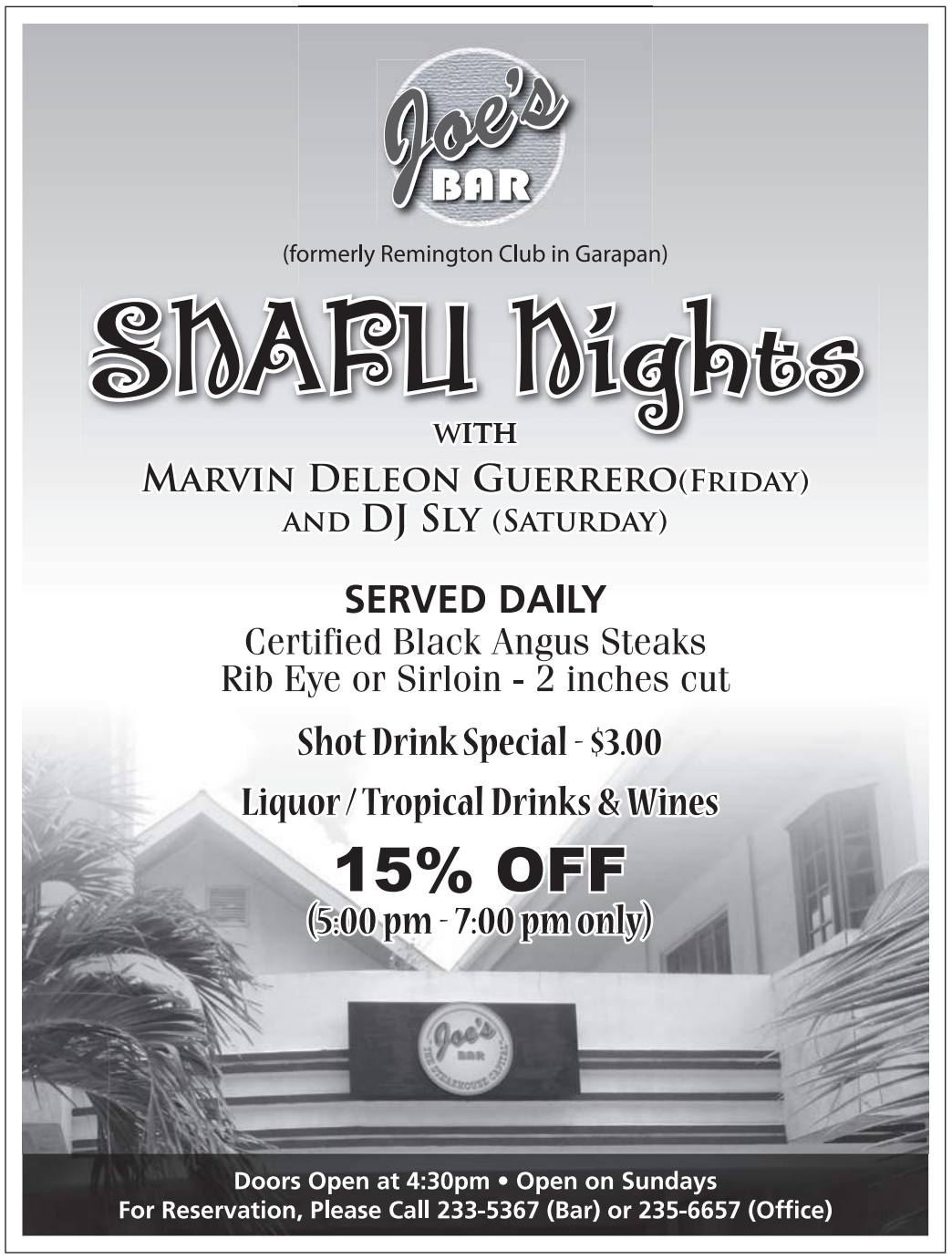
Curator's Corner to feature the Battle of Saipan

The American Memorial Park will present a "Curator's Corner" on Saturday, July 2, focusing on the Battle of Saipan, the first major Japanese community to be encountered by American troops in World War II. The presentation will take place at the Visitor Center from 12:30pm to 1:30pm followed by Maj. Rick Spooner's book signing.

The Empire of Japan had controlled Saipan since World War I. The island was defended by over 30,000 Japanese military personnel dug into the limestone cliffs and dry valleys. The ensuing Battle of Saipan in June of 1942 will be discussed during this presentation.

"Saipan was part of the defensive perimeter around the Japanese home islands. It was unlike anything our military had faced in the Pacific Theater—a civilian population living on Japanese soil in an urban center with 6,000 buildings. The loss of Saipan altered the entire war. America could now launch nonstop bombing raids from air bases less than 1500 miles from Tokyo," said James Oelke, the park's museum curator.

This is a special Curator's Corner offering at the American Memorial Park's Visitor Center. The public is welcome and admission is free. ***(PR)***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Energy Division's EECBG now in Gualo Rai

The CNMI Division of Energy of the Department of Public Works has relocated its Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program Office from Capital Hill to the Springs Development Inc. Building in Gualo Rai, next to the Coastal Resources Management Office.

In addition, the division said it is still accepting applications for services for the Energy Star Rebate Incentive Program and the Residential Weatherization Program under the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant.

These programs are designed to encourage CNMI residents to implement energy efficiency measures through the retrofitting and replacement of inefficient lightings and home appliances with Energy Star-rated lightings and appliances to reduce energy bills.

For individuals interested in obtaining applications for services under our Energy Star Rebate Incentive Program or the Residential Weatherization Program or wishing to learn more about the programs available, visit the new office in Gualo Rai or contact them at 664-4487/4489/4490 or fax 664-4488. You may also obtain information or download applications from their website at www.cnmienergy.com. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 1, 1999

CUC tasked to regulate prepaid phone cards

The Senate yesterday set the initial step in clamping down on illegal prepaid telephone service providers in the CNMI with the passage of a proposed law that will regulate the sector and protect the public from fraudulent businessmen on the island. Senate President Paul A. Manglona and Sen. Juan P. Tenorio co-sponsored the bill authorizing the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to promulgate rules and regulations governing the operations of prepaid phone cards here.

MVA to lobby for additional funding

The Marianas Visitors Authority is set to meet with the powerful House Ways and Means Committee to discuss the possibility of providing additional funding for the tourism office after the Office of Management and Budget capped its FY 2000 budget to $5.8 million. MVA Managing Director Perry John Tenorio said the meeting will be held after Rep. Karl T. Reyes, chair of the committee, sent a letter asking the tourism agency if it was seeking any changes in its budget before he submits a final draft of next year's spending package for deliberation in the House of Representatives. The budget for FY 2000 must be passed before September 30, 1999.

July 1, 2002

Fund board terms expiring

The terms of three Board of Trustees members of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund are set to expire this month and the Fund is urging Gov. Juan N. Babauta to immediately act on the matter to ensure a quorum, so the Board can continue conducting business. This comes even as the Board member seat reserved for the Tinian representative continues to be vacant. Former Tinian member Lenny Diaz was not reappointed to the Board after his courtesy resignation in January. Fund legal counsel Kathleen Troy-Rucker said that Board Chair Vicente Camacho's term will expire on July 9, concurrent with that of newly appointed member David Hokin, who was appointed to complete the rest of the term of former Board member Charles Reyes. The term of Rota Board member Rosita Santos is also set to expire on July 31.

NMI's call for delegate status in Congress backed

Members of the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church unanimously passed a resolution during its session in Redlands, California last June 18-23, 2002 endorsing the delegate status of the CNMI in the United States Congress. Mt. Carmel School social studies teacher Raimon Lehman, Jr. and Pastor Jaime R. Vergara represented Saipan Immanuel United Methodist Church in the conference. They joined delegates from all United Methodist local churches in Southern California, Hawaii and Guam. Gov. Juan N. Babauta, in his letter of greetings to the presiding Bishop, Rev. Mary Ann Swenson of the Los Angeles Episcopal Area, and the Conference delegates, said: "I am delighted to know that through your own legislative process, we might be in common cause in promoting the right of our people to due representation in the United States Congress."

July 1, 2003

NMC board lukewarm on exit exam

Members of the Northern Marianas College board of regents showed no eagerness to begin an exit examination of graduating students, a proposal floated earlier by NMC president Kenneth Wright. Board member Galvin Deleon Guerrero said he sees no urgency to implement the program for new enrollees this fall as proposed. "I don't think we have to identify a target group this fall. There's no need to do it right away," he said, noting that graduates are expected anyway to have acquired the necessary skills, particularly in writing.

Building naming measure vetoed

Gov. Juan N. Babauta thumbed down last week the local bill that sought to name five public buildings after prominent CNMI figures. In disapproving House Local Bill 13-6, the chief executive cited existing public laws that the local measure proposes to amend, which, he said, cannot be done. "The intent of the bill is laudable and [it is] fitting to honor and recognize our public servants who contributed their untiring and diligent efforts in shaping and developing the Commonwealth by naming public buildings after them.

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Opinion

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HA, HA! WE'VE GOT YOU NOW, YOU RUTHLESS, BLOODTHIRSTY TERRORIST, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE!
TSA
BUT, I'M A 95-YEAR-OLD, WHEELCHAIR-BOUND WHITE LADY....
HEY! WE DON'T PROFILE!

EDITORIAL

Avoiding Greece's tragedy

(c) 2011, Chicago Tribune

On the surface, the economies of the United States and Greece have almost nothing in common. One's big, the other small. One's diverse, the other tourist-centric. One nation collects its taxes due, the other has made tax evasion a national pastime.

Americans and Greeks are in hock up to their eyeballs, but the United States has the capacity to avoid default. Greece is on the brink.

Take no comfort in the many differences, however. The violent protests in Athens show what happens when debt grows so large that it crushes a people, a nation.

The United States needs to deal with its debt before it grows so large as to crush us. It's time for a breakthrough in the deficit reduction talks between President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans. The longer they wait to address an inflated federal budget and a $14 trillion-and-counting national debt, the more draconian the fixes will be.

Don't believe it? Consider Greece.

For all its dysfunction, the tiny Aegean nation at least has a plan to reduce its obligations and start to live within its means. Under threat of financial ruin, a whiff of tear gas in the air, it has hammered out a road map that its European Union backers say it must adopt.

America has no such road map. Its political leaders are still enjoying the luxury of arguing about whether defense cuts and tax increases make sense, whether entitlement programs need a wholesale chop or a trim around the edges. Washington officials are enjoying the luxury of playing politics with the U.S. economy. In time, though, runaway debt will curtail those options, and it won't be pretty.

Greece, by contrast, has put practically everything on the table.

Its fiscal plan would slap an income tax on those making as little as $11,454 a year and a tax hike on those making $17,181 and up. The "self-employed"—famous in Greece for dodging taxes—would begin to pay a minimum flat amount. A surcharge could double heating-oil bills. A tax on restaurant and bar tabs would go from 13 percent to 23 percent.

Under threat of internal revolt, the Greeks revised their fiscal plan to reduce unpopular spending cuts. But the plan still digs deep: It would introduce means testing to slash social benefits. It would whack prescription drug subsidies and reduce defense spending every year through 2015. The government would use attrition to chop its public-sector employment, replacing only a fraction of those who retire.

Wanna buy a piece of Greece? Now's your chance. From Athens Water to Hellenic Telecom, the government has set out to raise cash by selling state-owned assets. Ports, highways, beaches, mining rights and even a sports-betting franchise all would go up for grabs, though buyers could be hard to find.

Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou called the measure a matter of "survival, growth, justice and a future."

No, we're not Greece. We're not there yet. But we're hurtling in the wrong direction, and the stakes here are much, much higher. America cannot afford to wait until its unsupportable debt forces punishing, economy-crushing taxes or a national sell-off of assets.

We have to deal with this right now. The deadline for dealing with the national debt ceiling has to create a deeper sense of urgency than we see in Washington. Watch Greece. Watch closely.

ChEnglish

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

I had written about Chinglish previously, that amazing and mystifying version of English emerging from the thought patterns of *Zhonggou ren* in the eastern part of the Asian continent. There is reluctance among English learners to speak due to a history of mimicking what it sounds like in London and Boston, Sydney and Auckland, and Glasgow and, yes, even Moscow, and being embarrassed when it does not come out "foreignly" spoken. Doubly so having been schooled in always giving the right answer provided by the expert teacher, they would rather be told than pushed to extemporaneously dip into the encyclopedic vocabulary that already exists in their neural system.

Promoting Chinglish is my way of affirming what people already speak, spoken in Shanghai and Beijing, Guangzhou and Chengdu, Taipei and Singapore, and yes, Vancouver and San Francisco, also in English-translated Chinese songs.

The African-American *Ebonics* is studied at UC Berkeley. I propose that Chinglish be allowed the same academic treatment. To lift "Chinglish" from the stigma of derision, it is often referred to as 'Ch-English" by associates; am too lazy to tap the extra dash, so I am settling for *ChEnglish!* Ola! Shenyang ChEnglish is born!

The province of Liaoning does not require listening as part of the university entrance exam, unlike other provinces. Consequently, we have local students who could not string an English sentence together if their *jiao zi* (dumpling) depended on it. My OE class students from outside the province tend to be better speakers than the locals.

OE is an elective and students sometimes take it because they have it easy with foreigners who teach the course. Since the class is often conducted as a course about Oral English, it is just another exercise in memorizing what is provided and giving it back during exam.

We decided a different route. Extempo-speaking was high on our method; from day one, we queried about what they remember of their weekends, or describe an event in their day at their dorms in the last 24 hours. Writing a *ri ji* (diary) for 15 minutes was recommended to allow one to speak English once a day, if only to one's self. The style follows our four levels of consciousness epistemology of describing experience (see, hear, taste, smell, touch), expressing feelings (e.g., likes and dislikes), articulating thoughts (e.g., clear and/or meaningful ideas), and deciding the decisional "therefore," if any. Deeds are pushed further to answer to the 6w/h, of "what, when, where, who, how, and why."

There are no right or wrong answers, there are only answers, some made up, others, real. That seems to be the hardest requirement of all since the students have been drilled and the modern world concurs that they know the right answer for every question rather than dig out of their own experience and critical reflection an authentic response.

During introductions, one student began with the Beatles' "*There are places I remember, all my life,* and I will always remember Shenyang where I was born." The song served him well, so why not find out what English songs the students sang, or would like to learn to sing, and there began the shape of my OE lesson plans. Learning an English song became a prerequisite to passing the course.

Our last class day was a songfest as students stepped up front to sing their songs, solo or joint configs, and the voices from outside Liaoning were louder and clearer than the homegrown.

Sichuan *Hai Jinchi* (Jean) belted out Norwegian Maria Arredondo's *Burning,* an affirmation of passion not common in Sino discourse since it is considered private (but not surprising from the Chile-grown chanteuse of the *fiesta* girl from Ipanema tradition!). Local Beatle song quoter *Fu Pingzhang* (Waving Flag!) pronounced all his words well in admonishing us to wear a flower in our hair were we to go to San Francisco! He still could not speak a straight English sentence. *He Jiaqi's* (Brileam—I guess, from "brilliant dream") plaintive anti-war *21 Guns* of Green Day came as a surprise. He sings with a band on occasion, enunciates clearer, and has a larger vocabulary than most.

Ding Hao (Jasoon) of Hubei who earlier gave a stirring speech on "Motherland" joined *Fang Han* (Jenny) in a *Beauty and the Beast* rendition. The coup d'grace was Sichuan *Wu huali* (Iris) who came out with an Irish song that would delight my daughter's Irish husband and in-laws. In a clear sweet voice, she sang Yeat's *Down by the Salley Garden,* and I was stunned in awe and wonder as I imaginally heard the *Uilleann* pipes from afar.

With Premier Wen Jiabao currently giving speeches in Europe saying things like "the future China will be one that fully achieves democracy, the rule of law, fairness and justice," at the same time acknowledging that corruption, uneven income distribution and "other sorts of ills that harm people's rights and interests" still exist in the nation. A new China is evolving.

If my OE students' *ChEnglish* is any indication, the current generation of learners is finding its voice in a language of objective description, expressive feelings, articulated ideas, and intentional deeds. Look out world, *ChEnglish* is on its way!

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Old cars, old tricks

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.

One of the quirks of the Commonwealth is that most people need a car to get around, but the economy is always so shaky that people who would think nothing of spending $50,000 on a car in the mainland often opt to drive an island-beater. Nursing old cars is a way of life. This is one realm where the CNMI is ahead of the mainland, since precarious times there mean that people are hanging onto their cars longer. In fact, the median age of U.S. cars on the road is approaching 10 years old!

So although big picture economic stuff is worth heeding, I'm often more interested in the practical, hands-on things that we face in everyday life. One of the biggest expenses most of us face is cars. Well, at least we can take an active approach to managing our cars; it's a little slice of economics that gives us a say in things. With a lot of other stuff, we're simply at the mercy of the economic universe.

Because of tough times, people I know who didn't used to pay attention to their cars are now taking an active interest in keeping them healthy. Since I'm a pilot, hence a stickler for methodical checklists, I started drafting a checklist for making a "weekly check" for my cars. For many people this is utterly obvious, but if you're trying to get a distant friend or relative up to speed on this stuff, a simple checklist can be of use. This is not an exhaustive list of everything a car needs, but, instead, hits the highlights of the easiest things to check regularly:

1). Check tires for inflation and condition.

2). Glance at the pavement under the car for signs of leaks.

3). Under the hood check (a) battery terminals for corrosion, (b) coolant reservoir for the level and color of the fluid, (c) engine oil level, (d) transmission oil level if it's an automatic transmission, or clutch fluid level if it's got a visible reservoir, (e) power steering fluid level, (f) brake fluid level, (g) the level of the windshield washing fluid, (h) the condition of the fan belts or serpentine belt, (i) the condition of anything that seems to be leaking, (j) the basic condition of hoses and ignition wires, and (k) the general condition of anything else, meaning, just a quick look around.

Incidentally, all the stuff under the hood can be covered with a "flow" pattern, such as proceeding left-to-right under the hood and checking things as one encounters them. It's easy. And easier still now that many fluid levels are easily seen in sight fields in plastic reservoirs. On that note, I don't gratuitously top off brake fluid, since it normally declines as the brakes wear.

One little bugaboo is automatic transmission fluid, which is commonly checked when the car is running. A running engine can ensnare long hair, neckties, or whatever, and it's probably not a task you want to assign to just anyone in the household. So in some cases this task is better put on a monthly basis. I've got relatives who probably only get it checked once a year, namely, when I'm in town visiting.

Most old cars are going to have leaks or seepage. The secret is to get to know the leaks so they can be monitored.

The biggest joker I've seen is cooling systems. Modern engines are usually aluminum and they'll cook pretty easily, so I won't accept a leak in the cooling system. Fortunately, cars often throw off warning signs before they go thermodynamic on us. Green coolant will turn a funky brown when it's time for attention. Hoses, if gently squeezed, will reveal internal cracks by a crusty feeling. Water pumps are designed to "weep" fluid before they conk out entirely.

The second biggest joker I've seen is brakes. People will often put off brake service to the point where the pads have worn down and are gouging the rotors, thus turning a $200 job into a nice, juicy, $1,000 ordeal.

Third joker: Timing belts. Cars that have them typically have replacement intervals of 60,000 miles or so. It's critical maintenance.

Modern cars are so picky about the fluids they require that I spent an afternoon rounding up our various manuals and listing the various fluids they take. That's how boring my life is. I keep the garage stocked accordingly. For example, one of our cars takes 0W-40 synthetic oil. Another takes 5W-20. And yet another takes 10W-30. Coolant specifications are, likewise, also entirely different for each of our cars. Go figure.

Saipan has some excellent auto parts stores, and it's always a good idea to get on a first name basis with a good parts guy. And I've never been a price-shopper on this note; I've always preferred to have a good relationship with a place I trust, and I've never regretted that approach.

The virtue of 'I don't know'

By GREGORY RODRIGUEZ
Los Angeles Times

Gregory Rodriguez is executive director of the Center for Social Cohesion at Arizona State University and a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him email at grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com.*

In a world overrun by half-truths and wall-to-wall opinion, the simple words "I don't know" might very well become the most valuable phrase in any language.

There's plenty of grousing about the lopsided ratio of opinion to fact in our lives. But what irks me more is that these days it seems everyone is obligated to have a point of view on every issue.

Last week's news reports about the Miss USA pageant in Las Vegas confirmed it. This year's winner, Alyssa Campanella, Miss California, had to respond to the question, "Do you believe in legalized marijuana?" She said no, more or less, except for medicinal purposes.

The runner-up, poor Miss Tennessee, was asked if the First Amendment protected the burning of the Quran or other religious books in the same way it protects the burning of the flag. After a bit of hemming and hawing, she said, "Absolutely not," a response that riled up pageant judge and First Amendment absolutist Penn Jillette, who tweeted how happy he was to "help her lose" the crown.

But even before the final round, the 51 Miss USA contestants were subjected to a grilling over whether evolution should be taught in public schools. Only two—Miss Massachusetts and Miss California—gave an unequivocal yes; the rest said no or fudged.

Do we really need a beauty queen to tell us how to solve our local school curriculum controversies? Maybe so, but only if she's actually thought it through and can articulate her argument. Just once, instead of dishing up happy talk regarding nuclear disarmament, I'd like to see Miss Wherever stand tall on her stilettos and say, "You know what, I've honestly never given it a thought and have no clue."

Wouldn't that be great? In a world where uninformed opinion is ubiquitous, wouldn't that be a sign of excellent Miss USA-worthy character?

We seem to be obsessed with opinions because we take them to be a marker of individual independence, distinctiveness and reasoned intelligence. Expressing opinions is how we also express our freedom of conscience and flex our political rights. But when we're obliged to have an opinion on everything, all the time, our expressions of conscience are less about independent thinking than about making stuff up.

A 1981 study out of the University of Michigan found that roughly 30 percent of survey respondents were willing to offer an opinion on a highly obscure piece of legislation if a "no opinion" option wasn't available. The researchers concluded that people "who really have no views on the issues under inquiry " often "simply flip mental coins in order to satisfy the interviewer's expectation."

A similar 1983 study by University of Cincinnati political scientist George Bishop also revealed that roughly 30 percent of people who are polled will give their considered opinion on an entirely fictitious piece of legislation if not explicitly offered a "response alternative" that "allows them to admit they 'don't know' anything about it.'"

Bishop concluded that "there is little to no relationship between an individual's willingness to admit ignorance and his or her tendency to offer opinions."

Studies like these have led pollsters to realize that "no answer" isn't a missing data point (or a sign of a respondent's moral failure); having no opinion is a perfectly valid position. In fact, a "don't know" option can increase the accuracy of survey findings.

Unfortunately, the culture at large has yet to catch on, and we all seem to be trapped in an opinion rat race. Public opinion polling is a growth industry in the U.S, and whether it's meaningless website "click here" polls or "American Idol," the public is constantly beseeched for opinions.

Almost 2,500 years ago, Socrates was way out ahead on the "no opinion" option. On trial for the equivalent of heresy in Athens, he sparred with a pompous politician over the meaning of wisdom. He won: "I appear to be wiser than he," Socrates wrote, "because I do not fancy I know what I do not know."

Beauty queens—and everyone else—should take a lesson. Especially in America. We have as much of a right to our ignorance and indifference as we do to speak our minds. We're free to say "I don't know."

A duty to divorce?

By JANE GLENN HAAS
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

My kids all seem happily married to their first spouses. And I'm wondering if I'm to blame.

Well, not blame but ... according to statistics quoted in a New York Times article June 17, the divorce rate is going down among college-educated adults. Only 11 percent of these adults divorce within the first 10 years today, compared to 37 percent for the rest of the population.

I'll admit, when I got divorced it was "trendy." OK, not trendy, but an example of what women could do when they earned economic independence.

I remember the day I told my mom I was getting a divorce. She asked me "Why?"

"I'm not happy, Mom," I said.

"Whoever told you that you were entitled to be happy?" she responded.

Mom believed wives had a "duty" toward their husbands. Not to mention their children.

Indeed it is those children of a divorced generation -- now grown up with children of their own -- who are working harder at staying together. Today, there is nothing liberating about splitting up.

"Divorce was freedom," says Stephanie Coontz, author of "A Strange Stirring: The Feminine Mystique and Women at the Dawn of the 1960s." She has become an authority on marital expectations, and she notes that "Many of these marriages in the '70s were fundamentally unequal. With the women's movements, they learned that there were alternatives and that made divorce kind of a liberation."

This is no time to talk about the failings of my ex-husband. He is deceased, but his children don't need to hear my whines and finger-pointing. Suffice it to say, I felt I did the right thing then and I still believe that I did.

But this is an era of peer marriages. The National Marriage Project study concludes, "Highly educated Americans have moved in a more marriage-minded direction, despite the fact that, historically, they have been more socially liberal," the Times article notes.

I did a little surveying among my friends and found this to be true.

Few of them say their own children get divorced today. Especially once grandchildren arrive.

"It is as if there is an unwritten rule," Mary G. tells me. "I think my daughter works very hard to keep her marriage together. She is lucky in one way, I guess. She has a good job and her husband lets her do what she wants. In fact, they rarely do anything together."

Now, that's interesting. Makes me wonder if women in their 30s and 40s today are hanging on while kids are at home? Will the statistics change dramatically when the youngsters are gone and the marriage relies on nothing but the two people in the partnership? What, indeed, is the glue?

On the other hand, there are many women who don't feel it's necessary to have a wedding band. And the lack of the band doesn't keep them from living a "married" life, raising families and planning for a future together.

Maybe, as Susan R. puts it, "We boomers have to rethink what we even mean by marriage and family."

The old saw about "grow old along with me, the best is yet to be" might indeed be a concept that has outgrown its place in society.

Yet, I find that hard to believe. No weddings? No promises made? No dreams fulfilled?

My children turned out just fine, in spite of divorce. I know they turned out better than if I had stayed.

And my mother was wrong.

We have a "duty" to each other in a marriage, but we also have a duty to ourselves to provide our children—and ourselves—with the best possible future. A "martyrdom marriage" isn't a viable option for the couple or their kids.

Jane Glenn Haas is the founder of WomanSage. Contact her at jghaas@cox.net.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°

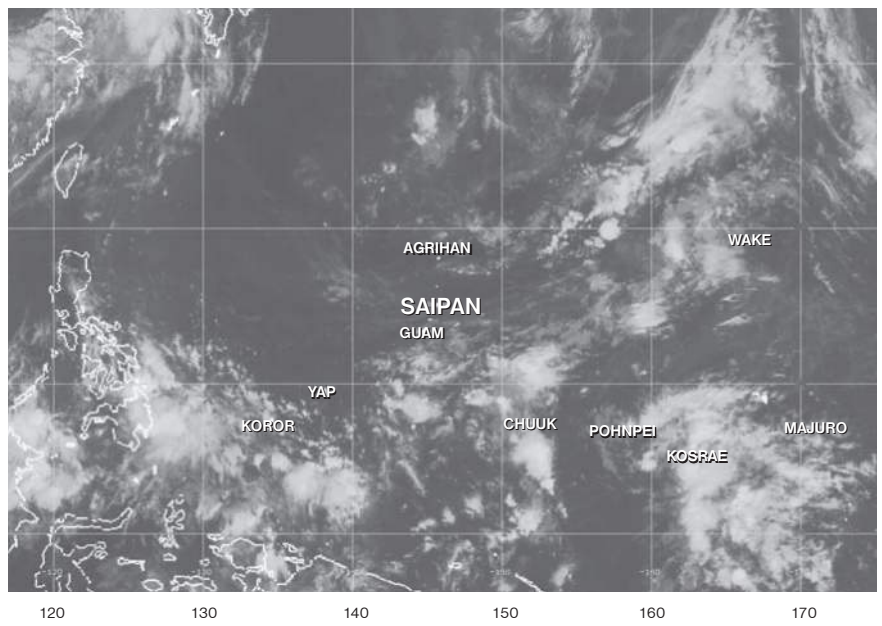
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲83	▼75
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼75
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲58	▼49
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲88	▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Sunny	▲84	▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲84	▼75
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲72	▼51
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲77	▼70
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼66
Salem	Sunny	▲75	▼52
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼57
Seoul	Showers	▲81	▼69
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲80	▼74
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲91	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough runs southeastward from 9N130E through a weak circulation centered southeast of Yap at 6N139E, then curves southward to end at EQ141E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located over Koror, or south of a line from 13N130E to 4N141E. An upper-level trough extends southwestward from 25N157E through lows centered northeast of the Marianas at 21N151E and south of Yap at 7N138E, then turns southward to end at EQ138E. A surface trough runs southwestward from 25N158E to a circulation centered at 21N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms related to these features are occurring northeast of the Marianas within 140 miles of a line from 18N153E to 25N161E. Another upper-level trough stretches southward from 21N161E to 16N163E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:36 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
7:23 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:55 PM	Today	High Tide:	-0.5 Feet
10:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:51 AM	6:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:25 AM	6:44 PM
Saturday	6:23 AM	7:35 PM
Sunday	7:21 AM	8:24 PM
Monday	8:19 AM	9:09 PM
Tuesday	9:16 AM	9:54 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

HOT SUMMER SALE
JULY 2011

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PORK BUTT $2.39 /LB.
BEEF BACKRIBS $24.99 20 LBS.
BUTANE GAS $23.99 /CASE

DIAMOND G CALROSE RICE $28.99 50 LBS.
GUAM JASMINE RICE $22.95 50 LBS.
LOTUS JASMINE RICE $25.99 50 LBS.
BAR-S BACON $2.89
MILLER SAUSAGE $15.99
BEEF FINGER MEAT $3.89 /LB.
GROUND BEEF $10.99 5 LBS.
CHOP HAM $16.99 10 LBS.
TURKEY TAIL $14.99 20#/ CASE

BAR-S HOTDOG $1.19
VEGA SHRIMP $5.49
GREEN MUSSELS $5.89
TILAPIA $1.39 /LB.
MILK FISH $1.49 /LB.
EGG MEDDIUM $1.79 /DOZ.

GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES GROCERIES

SPAM ISLAND $2.29
BLACK LABEL $1.59
OX & PALM $2.49
CORNED BEEF HASH $2.29
CHILLI NO BEAN $1.89
DINTY MOORE BEEF STEW $1.69
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MASTER A1 TUNA $1.19
COCO TUNA $1.19
SUGAR $2.99 2K.
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KIKOMAN SOY SAUCE $3.99 1.6 L.

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AVO US VINEGAR $3.99 1 GAL.
DATU PUTI VINEGAR $2.99 1GAL.
ICHIBAN RAMEN $8.99 CASE
NISSIN CUP SOBA SHRIMP $4.99 CASE
NONGSHIM BOWL SOBA $7.99 CASE

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TANG $7.99 22 Q.
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BEVERAGE BEVERAGE BEVERAGE BEVERAGE BEVERAGE

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ASAHI BLUE $21.95 CASE
COKE $14.99 CASE
SUNKIST $6.99 CASE

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HEINEKEN $29.95 CASE
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BEEF STEW	$12.99	BEEF BACKRIBS	$6.99	BEEF SHORTRIBS	$12.99	STEWING CHICKEN	$6.99

FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD NON-FOOD

TIDE LIQUID DETERGENT $16.99 100 OZ.
GAIN LIQUID DETERGENT $11.99 100 OZ.
GAIN POWDER DETERGENT $12.99 80 LOAD
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1,100 new laptops for all incoming 7th graders

By MONETH DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All incoming seventh graders in public and private schools will get new laptops when classes start in September, according to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan and federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh.

Thornburgh told the Board of Education that the Public School System has already invited companies to bid on this project. Bidding closes on July 11, in time for the delivery in August.

Funding for the netbooks will be taken from the consolidated grant for the current school year.

According to Joseph Torres, PSS technology communication network coordinator, the netbooks will be the same type given out to students this school year—Latitude 2110 netbook from Dell Corp.

The One-Laptop-Per-Child project aims to give laptops to students from seventh to 12th grade in both private and public schools. It was funded this school year using a portion of the $34.2 million state fiscal stabilization fund from the American Recovery Reinvestment Act

Based on the PSS laptop policy, seniors will own the units after their graduation while seventh and eighth graders will carry their units to high school.

PSS gave away 6,174 netbooks last school year.

Woman pleads guilty to bringing in six Chinese to work on Saipan

A woman who was indicted with another for recruiting six persons in China to come to the CNMI with promises of jobs here while pretending to be tourists pleaded guilty in federal court yesterday.

The 25-year-old Honglian Cheng pleaded guilty to a count of foreign labor contracting fraud conspiracy as part of a plea bargain. She will be sentenced on Sept. 15, 2011 at 10am. Her lawyer is Colin Thompson.

Cheng and Li Hua had been charged with foreign labor contracting fraud conspiracy, six counts of foreign labor contracting fraud, one count of alien smuggling conspiracy, six counts of alien smuggling, and three counts of importation of alien for prostitution.

Cheng was allegedly responsible for bringing to Saipan six persons who were recruited in China, while Hua was the one who recruited them in China.

The six—Zhongjun Yu, Cuilan Ma, Chungping Li, Lifei Bian, Shoujun Yin, and Zhipeng Ren—were arrested and have all pleaded guilty in federal court to improper entry. They are now undergoing deportation process. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Saipan's Next Top Chef contest thanks sponsors

Empty Vessel Ministry foundation Saipan Chapter thanks its major sponsor, Pacific Island Club, for hosting and helping organize the Saipan's Next Top Chef Fundraiser event.

The foundation also thanks its other sponsors, including Docomo Pacific, IT&E, Triple J, Five Star Wholesale Food, *Tops & More* Magazine, Serenity & Spa, Taro Sue Store, Saipan World Resort, Marianas Resort & Spa, Bank Pacific, and Kagman High School's culinary students.

"We are very thankful for Vicky Benavente for being instrumental in organizing this event. We also thank those that have been involved in one way or the other in putting this event together," states an Empty Vessel Ministry statement.

The Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation is a non-profit, faith-based organization committed to help women and children, by providing basic needs and tools for children on Saipan and making a difference in the lives of orphans, street children, and women abroad, through our various fundraising activities.

Currently, the foundation is supporting 34 orphans in Kenya, 10 in the Philippines, and two in Bangladesh. Moreover, it supports and empowers women through monthly meetings with various speakers from the community and provide loans to start small businesses.

Saipan's Next Top Chef fundraiser event will be held at PIC on July 16, from 2pm to 4pm. The competition will have six contestants competing for third, second, and the grand prize awards. The foundation will have exciting raffle draws plus intermission by Body Movers featuring Dr. Esther Kanajorn and Allen Cuyugan.

Contact the following organizers for ticket sales: Vicky Benavente at vickybenavente@gmail.com or 237-5103; Shelli Neal at shellineal@gmail.com or 285-7021; and Rose Smith at roseevm@yahoo.com or 483-0162.

Tickets may also be purchased at PIC, Empty Vessel Office in Gualo Rai, and the foundation's booth at Street Market on Thursdays.

"This is a must see event to attend. Don't miss our local talents demonstrating their expertise to become Saipan's Next Top Chef," said the foundation. ***(PR)***

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FRESH GRADUATE

Felicia S. DeBrum graduates with magna cum laude honors from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas on May 14, 2011. DeBrum, the daughter of the late Ned DeBrum and Leriza S. DeBrum, earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting. Felicia is pursuing her master's degree in Accounting at UNLV and is set to finish it in May 2012. She is shown here with her mother, Leriza DeBrum, brother Robert DeBrum, aunt Ida and Paul Camacho, and godsister Juannie A. Tenorio.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

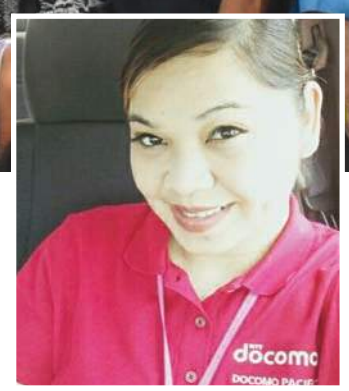
Happy 44th wedding anniversary to Mom and Dad, Beck and Paco Camacho! We love you both always! Greetings come from Pauline, Jeff, and Nikki.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday Dolores "Loli" Pangelinan! May the Lord bless you on your special day! Hope you have a great weekend. Greetings come from family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Izeiah Walter "Izei Bodig" S. Deleon Guerrero. Hope your day will be filled with joy and happiness. May the Lord and Grandpa Wally continue to watch over you and guide you. We love you, our little handsome boy. Enjoy your very special day. Love, your family on Saipan, in Guam, and Washington.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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2007 Kia Sportage LX 2WD
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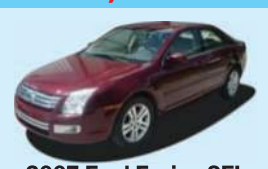
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BOE honors outgoing SVES principal

MONETH G. DEPOSA

San Vicente Elementary School principal Joaquina Salas, third from left, is presented a plaque of recognition by Board of Education members and Education Commissioner Rita Sablan.

Outgoing San Vicente Elementary School principal Joaquina Salas received yesterday a plaque of recognition from the Board of Education and the Public School System honoring her 30 years of service.

In a ceremony at the board's conference room, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan named Salas as an outstanding employee who dedicated her life to student learning.

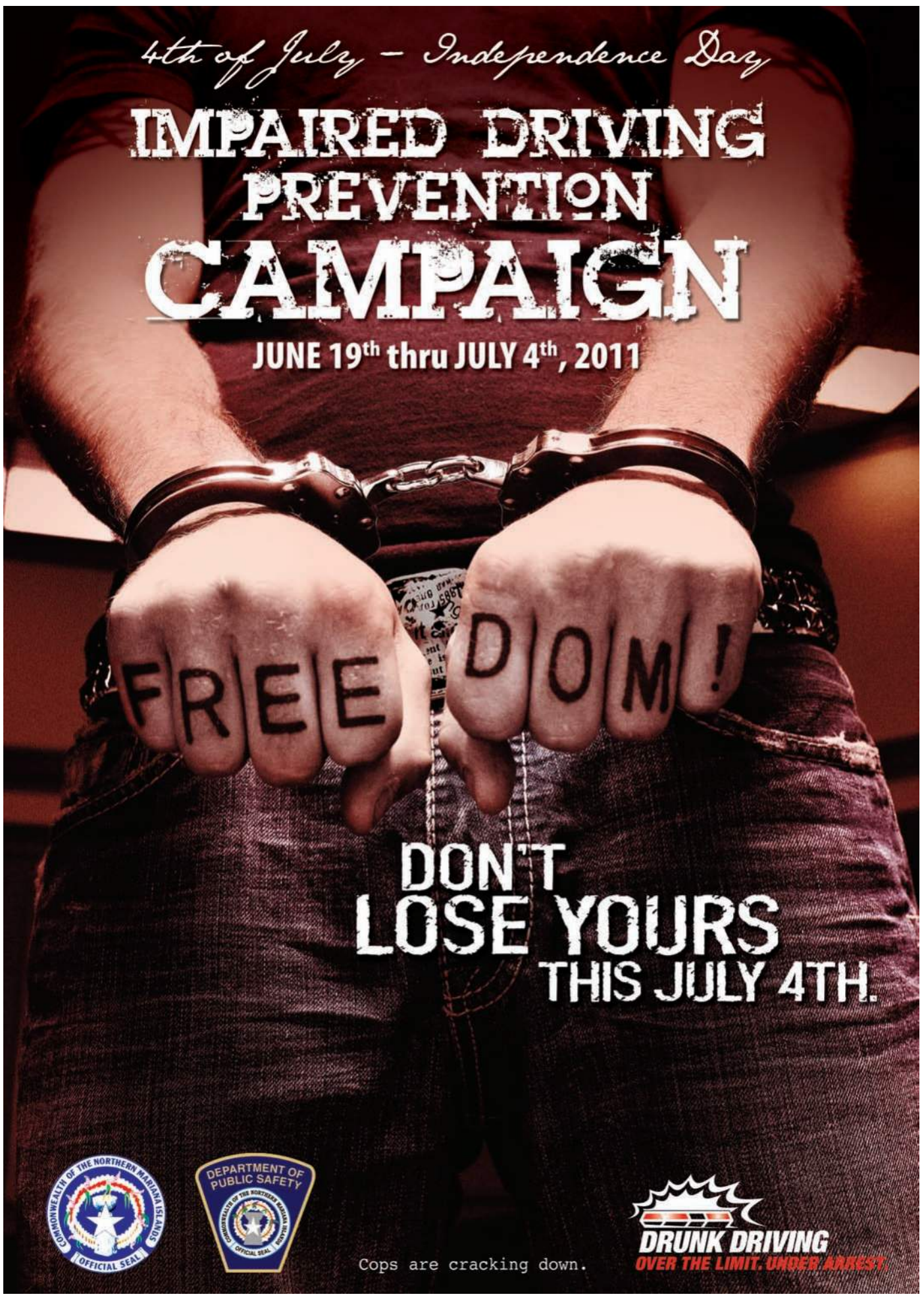
The commissioner noted the humble beginning of the retiring educator who was hired as a teacher aide in 1982 and was paid just $1.37 per hour. She lauded the perseverance and dedication of Salas who served as classroom teacher, vice principal, and school administrator. All these positions were served at San Vicente Elementary School.

The commissioner admitted that it's hard to let go of an exemplary educator like Salas.

For Salas, being an educator is not about money.

"Throughout my journey as an educator and administrator, I have learned a lot and I have seen a lot of positive changes. Yes, I started at $1.37 cents [back then] but for me it's not about money. It is about what I can do to help students," she said.

Salas is moving to Arizona this summer where she plans to continue teaching. ***(Moneth Deposa)***



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
PO Box 506296 Saipan, MP 96950,
TEL.: (670)322-6537 FAX: (670)322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY '11 Third General Membership on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at the Lilac, Saipan World Resort at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review and adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and adoption of the FY'11 2nd Meeting Minutes (04/07/11)
V. Reports
  a. OVR Director
  b. SRC Chairman
  c. Sub-Committees
VI. Old Business
  • 2012 State Plan
  • OVR Policy Manual
VII. New Business
  • 2011 NDEAM
VIII. Consumer Forum
IX. Announcements
X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ Jesus M. Elameto
CHAIRMAN

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE INTRACOMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

On March 14, 2011, GTA Services LLC (Applicant) filed with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide resold and facilities based local exchange telecommunications services in the Commonwealth. Applicant is required to provide this service under the rates, charges, terms and conditions established by the Commission.

The application [except portions thereof which may qualify for confidential treatment under the Commission's April 2, 2009 Confidentiality Order], the April 11, 2011 report of the Commission's regulatory consultant and any exceptions to this report, as filed by Applicant, are available for inspection during regular business hours at the law offices of George Anthony Long, Esq. P.O. Box 504970 Saipan MP 96950 [telephone 670.235.4802].

Interested persons may file comments for the record regarding the Application. Comments, which must be received by the Commission within fourteen days of this notice should be either mailed to the Commission c/o Attorney Long's office, delivered to this office or emailed to the Commission c/o gal@nmilaw.com. Questions regarding this notice should be referred to Attorney Long at the above address and phone number.

Applicant has the right to request a public hearing before the Commission on its application. The Commission will provide notice of any such hearing.

June 31, 2011.

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Pork Spareribs BBQ Adobo Cut 20 LBS. $24.99

Beef Back Spare Ribs 20 LBS. $26.99

Gusto Smoked Ham/ Whole Turkey $1.99/POUND

Mackerel PACIFIC 22.4 LBS. $25.99 — PIKE (uneven weight per case) $1.29/LB.

Shrimp Cracker Reg. & Hot 75 grams 59¢

SEOK SU Dynamic Fresh 500ml. x 20 $5.99/CASE

Jasmine Lotus Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $25.99

Diamond G Calrose Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $28.99 $27.99 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Sapporo Ichiban 21pcs./case (LIMIT 1) $8.99/CASE 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Korean Corn Chips 67 grams 99¢ Buy 1 Take 1 for FREE

MH Coffee Mix 100 sticks $6.99 LIMIT 1

Maxim Mocha Gold Coffee Mix 100 count $11.99

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Bar-S Bacon 1 lb. $2.99

Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. $1.15

Fish 4 You Crab Meat Stick 16 oz. $1.99

Ground Beef 5 LBS. $10.99 10 LBS. $17.99

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz. $3.99

Mackarel/Pike Family Bag $6.99

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. $2.99

Ocean Best Marinara Mix 1 lb. $2.49

Cut Swimming Crab 1.5 lbs. $6.99

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. $5.50 Limit 1

Imperial Choice Green Mussels 2 lbs. $6.99 $5.99 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. $6.99/PACK — 5.5 lbs. $12.99/PACK

Milk Fish $1.39/LB

Tilapia 99¢/LB

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $2.39

Onion 79¢/LB

Garlic $2.99/LB.

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS $2.69

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. (Limit 6) $1.79 $1.69 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Libby's & Armour Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 69¢

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Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.59

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.99

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. $1.99

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. $1.79

Coco Tuna 7oz. $1.19 Limit 6

3A Diamond Tuna $1.19 Limit 12

Coco Mackerel 15 oz. $1.29

Excellent Bihon 99¢

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. 99¢

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. $1.09

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn 89¢

Carnation Evaporated 12 oz. (U.S.) $1.39

Dragon 100% Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. $9.99

AVO Vegetable Oil 1 Gal $9.99

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 $32.99

Wesson 100% Vegetable Oil 64 oz. $5.99

Golden State White Vinegar 1 gallon $3.49

Whole Chicken Can 50 oz. $5.99/CASE

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Wholes) 1 Gal. $6.99

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $3.99

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs. $3.29

Korean Flour 2.5 kg. $3.99

Maseca 4.4 lbs. Limit 1 pc. $4.99

Sugar 2 kg. $2.99

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 79¢

Crisco Shortening 3 lbs. $4.99 Vegetable $5.99 Butter

Big Bowl Noodle Shin Ramyun 115 g. Shrimp Flavor $14.99 16 pcs./case

Nissin Cup Noodles 27 oz./box all flavors $5.99

Argo Corn Starch Limit 3 pcs. 99¢

Kraft Cool Whip 16 OZ. $3.99

Philadelphia Original Cream Cheese $2.99

Maxwell House 34.5 oz. $9.99

Coffee Mate 50 oz. $9.99 $8.99 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Folgers 33.9 oz. $10.99 $9.99 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Korean Butane Gas Limit 1 Case $22.99/CASE 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 & 3

Foam Cups 51 cnts. $1.99

Bounty Basic 15 ROLLS $16.99

Bounty 15 Rolls $20.99

Foam Plates 125 ct. $7.99

SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.) 2 PCS. $3.00

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. $3.00 EACH

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. $1.50

Huggies Big Pack (all size) $20.99

Luvs Big Pack (All Size) $20.99

Cottonelle double 24=48 rolls $16.99

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $7.99

Bottled White Candle (China) 12 pcs/case $14.99/CASE

Scott Napkin 250 sheets $3.49

Joy Ultra Lemon Diswashing 90 oz. $7.99

Country Time Lemonade 2.33 Kg. $8.99

Tang 22 qts. $7.99

Lipton Ice Tea 4 oz. $6.99

Kool Aid 5 lbs. $8.99

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only $6.99

Nescafe Mild Bean 175 ml. $9.99

Chamorro Punch 2L $6.99

Real Fresh Milk (Reduced/Regular) $21.99/CASE

Enfamil Premium Lipil 16x8oz. RTF $41.99/CASE

Caprisun Drinks 177ml. $2.99/BOX

Shasta Drinks 355 ml. (warm only) $12.99/CASE

Coke Regular 24/Case Warm Only $13.99

Ritz Drink All Flavor (warm only) $12.99

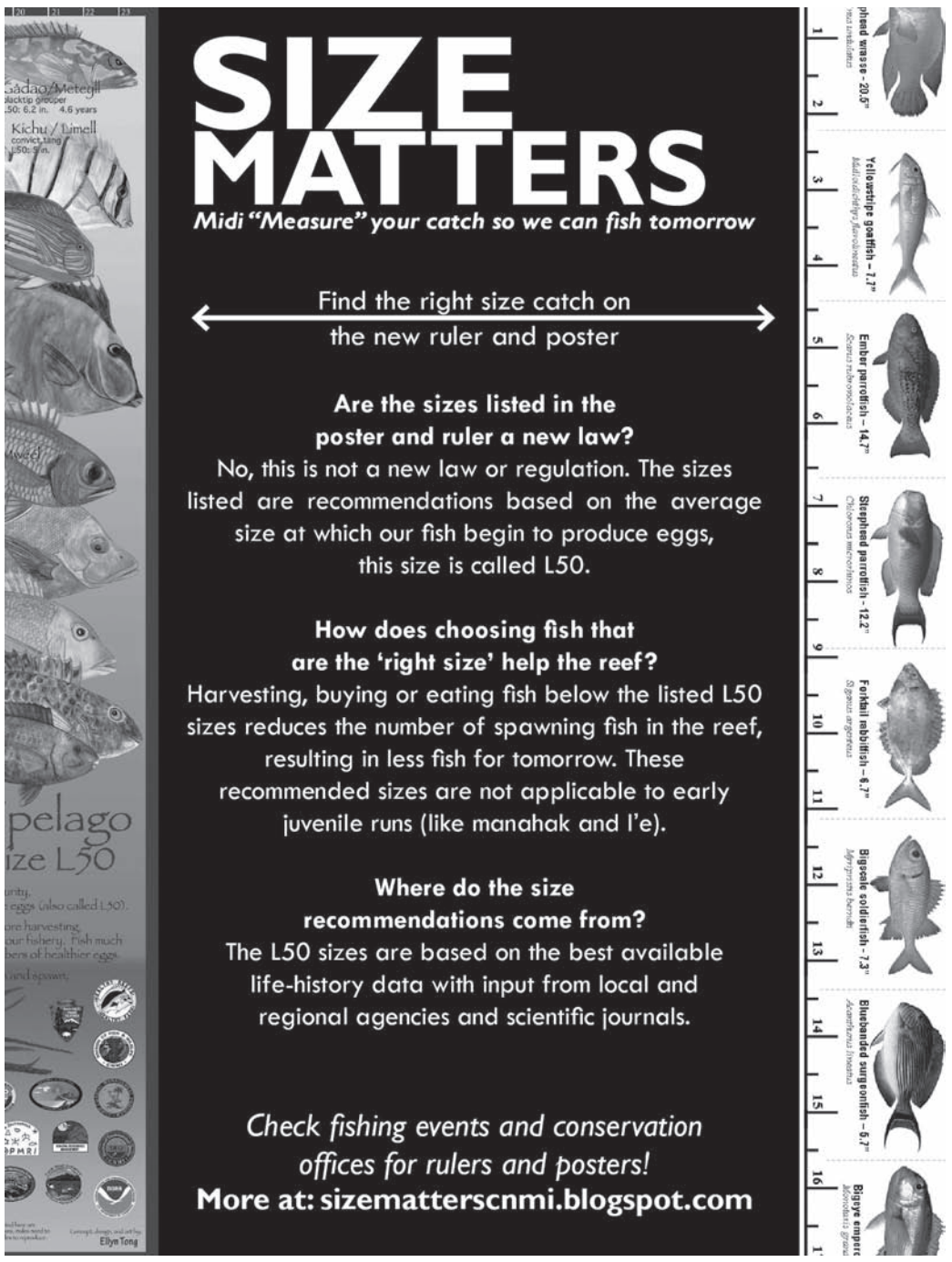
Kool Aid Jammer 177ml. $2.99/BOX

Pepsi 330ml Warm Only $14.99/CASE All Flavors

Budweiser/Budlight 24/Case Warm Only $28.99 3 DAYS ONLY JULY 1, 2 &3

FAMILY BAG SPECIAL

BEEF SHANK	$10.95	STEWING CHICKEN	$6.95	BEEF STEW	$12.95
FLANK STEAK	$16.95	TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	$4.99	RIBEYE STEAK	$17.95
PORK ADOBO	$10.95	U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS	$14.99	BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK	$14.95
PORK CHOP	$11.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95	SMOKED HAM STEAK	$12.95
PORK BELLY	$11.95	BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95	PORK BUTT	$10.95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Find the right size catch on the new ruler and poster
Are the sizes listed in the poster and ruler a new law?
No, this is not a new law or regulation. The sizes listed are recommendations based on the average size at which our fish begin to produce eggs, this size is called L50.
How does choosing fish that are the 'right size' help the reef?
Harvesting, buying or eating fish below the listed L50 sizes reduces the number of spawning fish in the reef, resulting in less fish for tomorrow. These recommended sizes are not applicable to early juvenile runs (like manahak and l'e).
Where do the size recommendations come from?
The L50 sizes are based on the best available life-history data with input from local and regional agencies and scientific journals.
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More at: sizematterscnmi.blogspot.com
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Ellyn Tong

17 groups, 4 floats in LibDay parade

» Mayor picks grand marshals for each island

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four floats and 17 groups have confirmed participation in the 2011 Fourth of July Parade, one of the biggest community events of the year.

The theme for this year's celebration is "A Band of Arms Liberating Communities to Freedom, The Island Way."

The four groups competing in the float contest are the Choll A. Beluu Cultural Dance Group, the Palau CNMI Community Association, KKMP, and the Tanapag Church Group.

"These groups will compete for three cash prizes: $2,000 for first prize, $1,500 for second prize, and $1,000 for third prize," said Saipan Mayor's Office staff Donald Crisostomo, who chairs this year's Parade Committee.

The 17 parade group marchers include the New Generation, Korean Community of Saipan, multiple JROTC units, Little League of Saipan, Falun Dafa, Saipan Awaodori, Chuukese Community, Coca Cola, CNMI Boy Scouts of America, Domatsuri Group and the Japanese Society, Matua Riders, American Red Cross NMI Chapter, Football Association, ATV Association, Man'amko King and Queen, the Seventh-Day Adventist Pathfinder Club, and the Saipan Music and Dance group.

The parade will start at 10am. The northbound lane of Beach Road from the Quartermaster intersection up to Bank of Guam will be closed as early as 7am.

Crisostomo disclosed that Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores has already selected the parade marshal for each of the four islands.

They are former CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs executive officer Ruth Coleman for Saipan; Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz for Tinian; Mayor Melchor Mendiola for Rota; and Daniel O. Kaipat for the Northern Islands.

Crisostomo noted that there are fewer participants in this year's parade and float competition.

"[We're] trying to make it a grand parade but the economy has turned from bad to worse. People are struggling and we can't force them to participate in the parade," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Still, Crisostomo said they are doing their best to ensure that the community will enjoy this year's festivities despite the challenges.

He added that there is a possibility of an aircraft flyover during Monday's parade, which they will confirm within the day.

Senate confirms 3 governor's appointees

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate confirmed yesterday afternoon three of the governor's appointees, including Frank P. Rosario who will serve a second term on the NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees.

Senators also confirmed the reappointment of Dr. Ahmad Al-Alou who will serve on the Medical Profession Licensing Board, and the appointment of former senator Diego Songao, who will serve on the Commonwealth Development Authority's board of directors.

Each of the three appointees received a 9-0 vote from senators.

Of the three, only Rosario was present during the Senate session.

He was accompanied by his wife Niki, relatives, friends and colleagues.

"First of all, I would like to thank the governor for reappointing me, and the Senate for confirming my appointment," Rosario told *Saipan Tribune*. "I ask my board of trustees colleagues to continue their hard work to find a better means to operate the Retirement Fund."

2011 – 2012 Application For Free School Meals is now available at all public schools and at the Public School System Central Office

PUBLIC RELEASE STATEMENT REGARDING THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Public School System Food and Nutrition Services Program today announced its policy for children *unable* to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Regardless of financial standing and participation in programs such as WIC or NAP, a new free school meal application must be completed and submitted each school year to receive free school meal benefits.

Meal prices for the 2011-2012 school year will remain the same as the previous year. Students may buy a subsidized school breakfast for $0.50. Additional breakfasts can be purchased for $1.80 at elementary schools and $2.20 at secondary schools. Students may purchase a school lunch for $0.75. Additional lunches can be purchased for $2.85 at elementary schools and $3.40 at secondary schools.

Application forms are now available at the PSS Food and Nutrition Office and are being sent to all public schools with a notice to parents or guardians. Applications are available at Tinian Elementary School and Rota Junior High School as well. To apply for free meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school or to the PSS Food and Nutrition Services office. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The application can be downloaded at http://www.cnmipss.org/state-level-programs/administrative-services/food-and-nutritional-servicess/

To obtain free meals for children for whose households receive Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, an adult member needs only to list the names of the school children, give a food stamp case number for each child, sign his/her name and return the application to the school office. If *any* of the students do not have a valid food stamp number, then the entire application must be completed with accompanying verification documents.

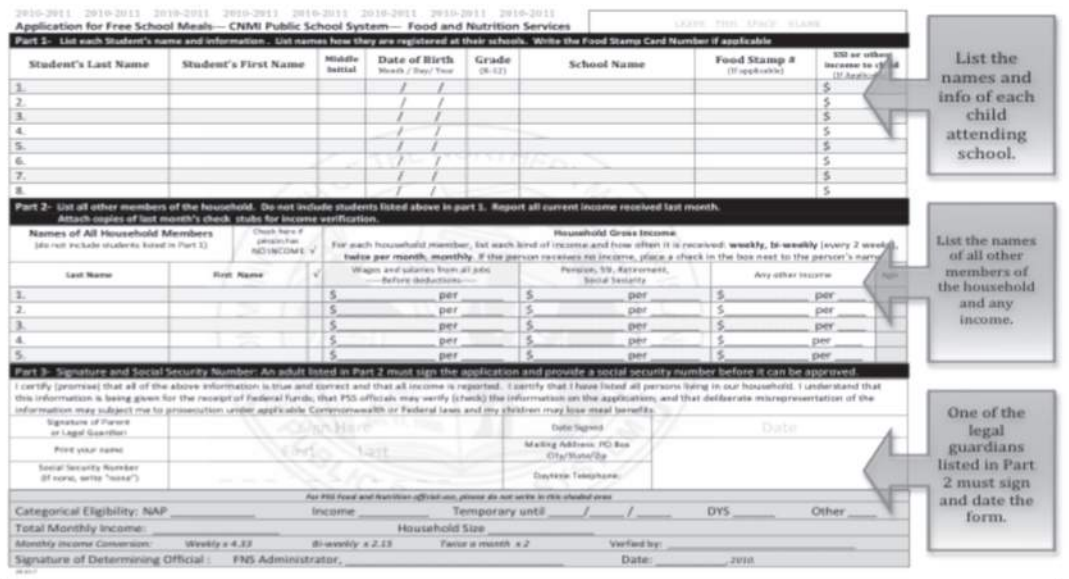
For the school officials to determine eligibility for free meals of households not receiving Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. In lieu of a social security number, the household may indicate that the signer does not possess a social security number. Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.). For verification purposes, copies of the most recent check stubs must be included with the application. Failure to include these items will delay the processing of the application.

Under the provisions of the free meal policy, the PSS Food and Nutrition Services Manager will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Mr. Dale Roberts, PSS Food and Nutrition Services Program Manager located on the third floor of the NMI Retirement Building.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the FNS Office. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals if the household income falls at or below the IEG levels listed in the chart, and they may reapply at that time.

In most cases, foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a household has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for free or reduced price meals, the household should complete an application for a family of one or contact the school for more information.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. PSS is authorized to release student free and school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs.


Application for Free School Meals— CNMI Public School System— Food and Nutrition Services
Part 1- List each Student's name and information. List names how they are registered at their schools. Write the Food Stamp Card Number if applicable
Student's Last Name
Student's First Name
Middle Initial
Date of Birth
Grade
School Name
Food Stamp #
Part 2- List all other members of the household. Do not include students listed above in part 1. Report all current income received last month.
Attach copies of last month's check stubs for income verification.
Names of All Household Members
Household Gross Income
Part 3- Signature and Social Security Number: An adult listed in Part 2 must sign the application and provide a social security number before it can be approved.
Categorical Eligibility: NAP
Income
Temporary until
DYS
Other
Total Monthly Income:
Household Size
Signature of Determining Official :
FNS Administrator,
Date:
List the names and info of each child attending school.
List the names of all other members of the household and any income.
One of the legal guardians listed in Part 2 must sign and date the form.

2011-2012 Federal Income Guidelines (IEG) for Free Meal Eligibility. If your household income falls within these guidelines your children MAY be eligible to receive free school meals.

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	2x per Month	Bi-weekly	Weekly
1	$ 14,157	$ 1,180	$ 590	$ 545	$ 273
2	19,123	1,594	797	736	368
3	24,089	2,008	1,004	927	464
4	29,055	2,422	1,211	1,118	559
5	34,021	2,836	1,418	1,309	655
6	38,987	3,249	1,625	1,500	750
7	43,953	3,663	1,832	1,691	846
8	48,919	4,077	2,039	1,882	941
Add'l member, Add.....	+ 4,966	+ 414	+ 207	+ 191	+ 96

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.

Children who received free meals last school year will receive free meals for up to 30 days after the opening of school on September 6, 2011. **To avoid delays in free school meal services due to processing, all applications should be completed and submitted to PSS FNS before September 23, 2011.**

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official. The PSS FNS office can be reached on Saipan: 237-3053/3060/3058/3050/3033/3055 or fax 664-3717, Tinian: 237-4106/4105, Rota: 237-4046/4041/4042

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33LB. $24.99 CASE
22LB. $18.99 CASE

PORK BUTT

$9.99 BAG

PORK SPARE RIBS 20LB.

$24.99 CASE

PORK BABY RIBS 10LB.

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$1.19 PER LB.

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$32.99 LIMIT 1

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$5.49

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$1.99

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49¢ PER LB.

COCO TUNA

$1.09 EA.

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$2.69 EA.

BLACK LABEL LUNCHEON LOAF

$1.79 EA.

VIENNA SAUSAGE

$11.50 CASE

VIENNA SAUSAGE

69¢ EA.

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69¢ PER LB.

COFFEE MATE 50 oz.

$8.99

MAXWELL COFFEE MIX 100 STICKS

$7.99

SAPPORO ICHIBAN RAMEN HIBAN

$9.50 CASE

TOP RAMEN

$6.99 CASE

CAMPBELLS CHICKEN NOODLES

99¢ EA.

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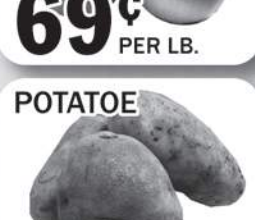
89¢ PER LB.

FILMA COOKING OIL 5LTR.

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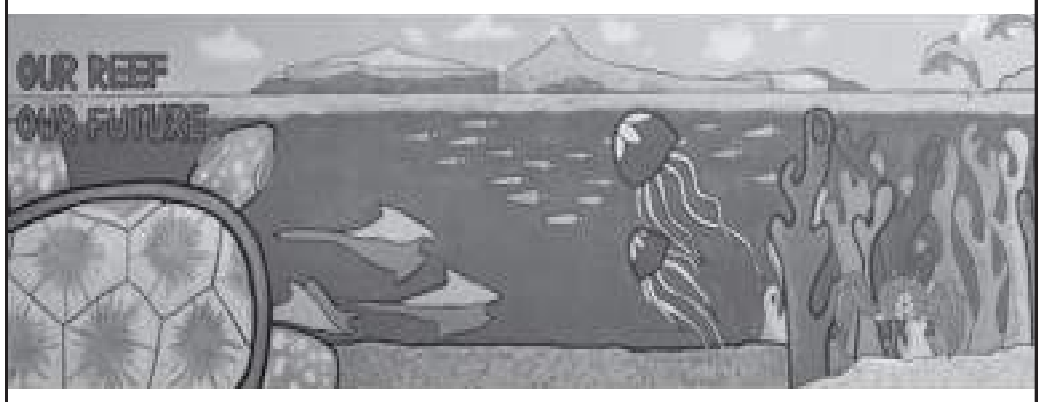

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Generous donors to Harrison Smith's Eagle Scout Project located at the tennis courts at American Memorial Park

Business

Mileage Plus is new loyalty program for United Continental

CHICAGO—United Continental Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: UAL) yesterday announced that Mileage Plus will be the loyalty program for its wholly owned subsidiaries United Airlines and Continental Airlines beginning in 2012.

Moving to a single loyalty program is a significant milestone in the integration of the two airlines and will provide a more consistent travel experience for customers.

United will announce complete details of the Mileage Plus program—including elite levels, qualifications and benefits, lifetime benefits, and other program developments that will take effect in 2012—in the coming months.

Continental's OnePass loyalty program will end on Dec. 31, 2011. United will automatically enroll OnePass members in Mileage Plus and deposit into Mileage Plus award miles equal to their OnePass award miles balance.

OnePass members' 2011 OnePass elite qualifying activity will be recognized fully in their 2012 Mileage Plus elite status. Chase OnePass credit cards, including OnePass Plus and Presidential Plus, will continue to earn miles and benefits in the Mileage Plus program.

In the meantime, United and Continental customers who are currently enrolled in both Mileage Plus and OnePass may link their accounts, enabling them to combine their miles and earn awards faster this year.

Launched in 1981, Mileage Plus is the world's most rewarding loyalty program, with a wide array of travel, credit card and retail partners. Mileage Plus members may earn elite travel benefits, including Premier Access airport services, and have access to one of the most extensive merchandise redemption programs in the industry. With the new United's leading global route network, no other airline offers more destinations for award travel.

Mileage Plus received the Frequent Traveler award for best airline elite program in 2011, the second year in a row. In addition, readers of Global Traveler magazine voted Mileage Plus best frequent flyer program in 2010 for the seventh year in a row.

More information is available at united.com and continental.com. ***(Continental)***

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Greece passes steep cuts as riots seize capital

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece fended off a bankruptcy that threatened to roil global financial markets, approving severe spending cuts and tax increases Wednesday in the face of violent protests by Greeks who say they have suffered enough. The package of austerity measures would keep bailout money flowing to Greece from other European countries and the International Monetary Fund. It would free $17 billion in fresh loans, although the money will only be enough to see the nation through September.

Goldman Sachs warns that layoffs could reach 230

NEW YORK (AP)—Goldman Sachs Group Inc. said Wednesday that it could lay off as many as 230 workers in New York by next spring. The investment firm notified the New York State Department of Labor of the possible layoffs in a notice filed on Wednesday. In the filing, Goldman said the layoffs would happen between Sept. 26 and March 31, 2012. The company simply cited economic reasons for the layoffs. Goldman Sachs has about 35,000 employees worldwide. The company does not break down how many of those workers are based in New York.

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- Must have a valid driver's license and willingness to use personal vehicle in the course of work.

All interested individuals may apply in person at Flame Tree Terrace Office Building, Suite 200, Lower Capitol Hill on or before July 6, 2011.

StayWell is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Public Health
Office of the Secretary of Public Health
P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (1- 670) 234-8950 FAX: (1- 670) 234-8930

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program 2012 State Plan is now available for review and public comment from June 29, 2011 to July 1, 2011. Interested members of the general public may review the 2012 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Navy Hill, Saipan, Building No. N-25. Our office hours are from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm (Monday – Friday). All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than July 5, 2011.

Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez
Secretary of Public Health

Carmen C. Cabrera
WIC Program Administrator

UNITED STATES
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COUNCIL on DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant Program
Bldg. No 1312, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 502565, Saipan, MP 96950-2565 • Tel.: (670) 664-7000 • Fax: (670) 664-7030
Email: info@cnmicdd.org • Website: www.cnmicdd.org

The CNMI Developmental Disabilities Council (CNMI CDD) wishes to thank all stakeholders who provided input for the CNMI CDD's 2012-2016 Draft State Plan.
Please review the CNMI CDD 2012-2016 Draft State Plan Goals below and provide your feedback.

DRAFT STATE PLAN - 5 - YEAR GOALS

Area of Emphasis: Transportation

Draft Goal: People with developmental disabilities have access to transportation services for work, school, medical, emergency, and other basic needs.

Draft Objective 1: Continue active involvement with the CNMI Office of Transit Authority to develop a viable Public and Para-Transit transportation system.

Draft Objective 2: Advocate for the development and adherence of the CNMI Mass Transportation and Para Transit Riders Guide to ensure that contents and other applicable requirements within the Americans with Disabilities Act, Federal Transit Administration, and other regulations are complied-with.

Draft Objective 3: Collaborate with the Developmental Disabilities Network and Partners to provide as needed technical assistance and/or training to the CNMI Office of Transit Authority, service providers, and riders.

Draft Objective 4: Advocate for the increase of Para-Transit and accessible vehicles, including back-up vehicles, to accommodate transportation demand and ensure reliable, consistent and accessible services.

Draft Objective 5: Advocate for the increase and improvement of year-round Para-Transit operating hours and services.

Area of Emphasis: Employment and Education

Draft Goal: People with DD have improved access to employment and educational opportunities consistent with their interest, abilities and needs.

Draft Objective 1: Work with the DD Network, Office of the Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), Workforce Investment Agency (WIA), Northern Marianas College (NMC), Public School System (PSS) and other partners to enhance the existing employment and education referral system.

Draft Objective 2: Collaborate and support programs and entities that help prepare IWDDs qualify for employment and or enhance their education.

Draft Objective 3: Coordinate with the Social Security Office or Social Security Administration Liaison to conduct training on Social Security benefits for people with developmental disabilities.

Draft Objective 4: Collaborate with and support programs that provide Supported-Employment and Self-Employment opportunities and other related services.

Draft Objective 5: Collaborate with the DD Network, NMC, PSS, OVR and other partners to ensure education/vocational transition services are available for people, including students with developmental disabilities and other disabilities.

Area of Emphasis: Cross Cutting

Draft Goal 1: People with developmental disabilities are informed and assured of immediate emergency care in the event of a disaster.

- **Draft Objective 1.1:** Collaborate with partners to advocate aggressively for the CNMI Homeland Security and EMO to develop a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Management Plan to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are included and appropriately cared for during emergencies and catastrophic disasters.
- **Draft Objective 1.2:** Collaborate with partners to monitor and ensure that the CNMI's Emergency Preparedness Management Plan includes protocols for individuals with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are integrated and coordinated with other emergency management plans and programs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Government and the Federal Government.
- **Draft Objective 1.3:** Collaborate with partners to educate and inform public and private entities, agencies, local municipality, and those having roles in emergency management, on the importance of proper care of individual with Developmental Disabilities and other disabilities during emergencies.
- **Draft Objective 1.4:** Collaborate with partners to support the development of a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Handbook for people with developmental disabilities and other disabilities.
- **Draft Objective 1.5:** Collaborate with partners to ensure that the Emergency Preparedness Handbook is integrated and coordinated with the Emergency Preparedness Management Plan.
- **Draft Objective 1.6:** Ensure that both the Emergency Preparedness Management Plan and the Emergency Preparedness Handbook are available online through entities that deal with Emergency situations, the DD Network, Councils, and Emergency Management Office websites.
- **Draft Objective 1.7:** Collaborate with partners so that people with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are informed and are properly prepared to endure the threat of disasters.
- **Draft Objective 1.8:** The DD Network Partners and Office of Disability Policy and Programs and the Emergency Preparedness Task Force will identify a facility that can be equipped with the necessary utilities, and infrastructure that includes the necessary connectivity for special medical and individual support equipment, so that is can be transformed into a shelter for individuals with developmental disabilities and other disabilities during threats of disasters.

Draft Goal 2: Develop a reliable and accessible registry system and database that helps identify and register individual with developmental disabilities and other disabilities so that services can be made more available in an efficient and timely manner.

- **Draft Objective 2.1:** The DD Network Partners, Office of Disability Policy and Programs, Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, Public School System, NMC, Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Health & Environmental Services and those that deal with emergency situations, will indentify and refer people with developmental disabilities for registration into a community disabilities services registry that can also be utilized for emergency situations and other related purposes.
- **Draft Objective 2.2:** The DD Network Partners and Office of Disability Policy and Programs and the Emergency Preparedness Task Force will collaborate in developing a disabilities registry that will list all people with developmental and other disabilities inclusive of their distinct types of disabilities and needs.

Draft Goal 3: All public and private transportation resources for individual with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are identified and prepared for immediate deployment, if necessary, in the event of a disaster.

- **Draft Objective 3.1:** Collaborate with Emergency Preparedness Task Force to ensure that the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are included in the evacuation component of the emergency preparedness management plan and that it includes specific municipality planning provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities.
- **Draft Objective 3.2:** Collaborate with the Emergency Preparedness Task Force to identify all potential transportation resources, public and private, and ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities and other disabilities are included in a viable coordination and management plan for deployment in the event of a disaster.
- **Draft Objective 3.3:** Encourage and support the Council, Emergency Preparedness Task Force and other public and private organizations in promoting the Emergency Preparedness Management Plan through program displays or presentations at various events in the community, media and radio spots.

You may provide your feedback in the following ways:

- By email: info@cnmicdd.org
- By Phone: 670-664-7000/1
- By Fax: 670-664-7030
- By Mail: P.O. Box 502565 Saipan, MP 96950

Upon request, the State Plan information will be provided in alternative formats.

If you have any questions, please contact Ray Diaz, at rdiaz.cnmicdd@gmail.com or at 670-664-7000.

This ad was paid for by DD Basic Grant, Part B Funds.

Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950 • E-mail: nmcadsv@pticom.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
PROGRAM ASSISTANT

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated team player to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

Minimum Qualifications
An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience providing clerical and administrative support
Demonstrated abilities in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Flexible Schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to Travel

Extra consideration will be given for the following:
1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism.
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration.

For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email nmcadsv@pticom.com.
No phone call inquiries, please.

Salary Range: $10.00/hr ~ $14.00/hr (based on experience)

Deadline and Submission Information
Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m.
on **Friday, July 15, 2011.**

Applications can be submitted via email to nmcadsv@pticom.com, delivered to NMCADSV's office at the Spring's Plaza Building on Middle Road (north of XO Market), or mailed to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to bring a copy of Diploma or equivalent and a Police Clearance.

This project is supported by Grant # 2010-AX-MU-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Nation

Confrontational Obama rebukes GOP on debt talks

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a blistering rebuke of Republicans, President Barack Obama on Wednesday pressed lawmakers to accept tax increases as part of a deal to cut the nation's deficits and avoid a crippling government default. "Let's get it done," Obama challenged, chiding Congress for frequent absences from Washington.

Senators from Obama's own Democratic Party quickly said they'd consider canceling next week's July 4 recess to work on a possible agreement, and as the day went on senators said they assumed they would stay.

In a White House news conference, Obama offered one fresh wrinkle to try to give the economy and pessimistic voters a lift, calling on Congress to pass a one-year extension of the Social Security payroll tax cut that employees got this year. But he used most of the hour-long session to try to sway public opinion his way on the debt debate consuming Washington.

Obama accused Republicans of intransigence over tax hikes, comparing their leaders to procrastinating children and painting them as putting millionaires, oil companies and jet owners ahead of needy students. One Democratic official said that in talks to date, the administration was seeking roughly $400 billion in higher tax revenue over the next decade.

Responding quickly to the news conference, the Republican House Speaker, Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, shot back that the president was ignoring reality.

"His administration has been burying our kids and grandkids in new debt and offered no plan to rein in spending," Boehner said as the day's events seemed only to entrench both sides. "The president is sorely mistaken if he believes a bill to raise the debt ceiling and raise taxes would pass the House. The votes simply aren't there."

ACROSS THE NATION

Dozens of US cities line up to contest 2010 census

WASHINGTON (AP)—With jobs and federal aid at stake, U.S. cities are lining up to contest their 2010 census counts as too low. A decade ago, there were 1,200 challenges filed by cities, towns and counties. The U.S. Conference of Mayors is predicting a big jump in that number, due in part to tighter budgets that make local officials more sensitive to potential drop-offs in federal money for Medicaid and other programs. Nearly $450 billion in federal aid is distributed to states based on population each year, or roughly $1,500 per person. Cities have two years to contest their counts under the Census Bureau's appeals process, which began this month.

Judge: Prison can forcibly medicate Tucson suspect

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A federal judge ruled Wednesday that the Tucson shooting rampage suspect can be forced to continue taking anti-psychotic drugs, rejecting a plea by defense attorneys that the decision by prison doctors merited more scrutiny. U.S. District Judge Larry Burns' decision came after Jared Lee Loughner's attorneys filed an emergency request last week to prevent their client's forced medication without a judge's approval. Burns said he did not want to second-guess doctors at the federal prison in Springfield, Mo., who determined that Loughner was a danger. Defense attorneys said Loughner had been forcibly medicated since June 21.

Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated team player to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

Minimum Qualifications
An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience with community organizing and/or outreach
Experience planning and executing training events
Demonstrated proficiency in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Ability to juggle multiple tasks and deadlines
Flexible schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to travel

Extra consideration will be given for the following:
1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration

For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email nmcadsv@pticom.com.
No phone call inquiries, please.

Salary Range: $14.00/hr ~ $18.25/hr (based on experience)

Deadline and Submission Information
Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on
Friday, July 15, 2011.

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This project is supported 100% by a grant to NMCADSV under the Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants to State Domestic Violence Coalitions issued by the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW11-IFB-014

REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF CHINA TOWN BASKETBALL COURT, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Repair and Renovation of China Town Basketball Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after July 01, 2011 at DPW Technical Services Division 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars **($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to US Citizen or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the BID or PROPOSAL if preference is claimed.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on July 20, 2011, 1:00 p.m. local time at the project site located at China Town Basketball Court Behind the Man'amko Center, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on July 25, 2011 to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, DPW 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW11-IFB-014".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m. local time August 01, 2011. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than1:00 p.m. local time, August 01, 2011, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 01, 2011, and must be received no later than August 10, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 1:00 p.m. local time, August 15, 2011. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. local time, on August 04, 2011.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulation Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Sixty **(60)** calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars **($100.00.00)** per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ex-Taiwan leader charged with embezzling $7.79M

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—A Taiwanese prosecutor says former President Lee Teng-hui has been indicted on a charge of embezzlement. Prosecutor Chen Hong-ta says Lee and his top aide, Liu Tai-ying, were indicted Thursday on charges of embezzling $7.79 million from a secret diplomatic fund. Lee served as president between 1988 and 2000. He was elected in Taiwan's first popular presidential election in 1996. Another former Taiwanese president, Chen Shui-bian, is serving a 17-year-jail term for a series of corruption charges.

Magnitude-5.4 quake jolts central Japan; 7 hurt

TOKYO (AP)—A magnitude-5.4 earthquake has rattled central Japan and at least seven people are hurt. The Japan Meteorological Agency said the quake hit Thursday in Nagano, some 170 kilometers (105 miles) northwest of Tokyo. The quake was just four kilometers (2.5 miles) deep. No tsunami warning was issued, the agency said. Nagano fire department official Sadahiko Furusawa said seven people were injured in the quake, but none was in critical condition.

Amnesty Int'l: China crackdown on lawyers expands

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities are increasingly resorting to attacks and secret detentions in a crackdown on activist lawyers that has worsened this year amid government efforts to prevent the growth of an Arab-style protest movement, a rights group said Thursday. Amnesty International said the government also has suspended or revoked lawyers' licenses to stop them from taking sensitive cases, such as defending pro-democracy dissidents, members of banned religious movements or government critics. "Intimidation, harassment, violence, arbitrary detention—were all increasingly used against lawyers and their families in 2010," the group said in a report released Thursday detailing the crackdown over the past two years. "Such acts are carried out in more and more blatant ways, with officials abandoning even the pretense of obeying the law."

Afghan attack left mass of bodies at luxury hotel

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Hotel guest Abdul Zahir Faizada watched as a uniformed gunman shoved a man to the ground and shot him to death at point-blank range. Suddenly, gunfire erupted and another assailant blew himself up. By the time the siege of the luxury Inter-Continental Hotel ended Wednesday, 20 people lay dead—including nine attackers, all of whom wore suicide-bomber vests—and one of Kabul's premier landmarks was left a grisly scene of bodies, shrapnel and shattered glass.

Saudi Arabia bans Indonesian, Filipino maids

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—The spokesman for Saudi Arabia's Labor Ministry says the kingdom will no longer issue work permits for domestic workers from Indonesia and the Philippines after new hiring guidelines laid out by those nations. Khatab Al Atiry said Wednesday the decision would be effective July 2. Indonesia said on June 22 it would not send domestic workers to Saudi Arabia until Riyadh signs a deal on migrant worker protection. The moratorium followed the execution days earlier of an Indonesian maid convicted of murdering her Saudi employer's wife. Indonesian officials complained they were not informed before the execution.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-010

Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System
ADDENDUM NO. 1

May 26, 2011

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System:

1. **One (1) original and Five (5) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **July 07, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

   A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 03, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST),** at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

   All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than June 10, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

2. **Scope-of-Work, Page 26, at letter c:** "Considering the SO 1 requirements which CUC must meet, an aggressive schedule for the design and execution of the project is required four months after the Notice to Proceed. Does the Proposed schedule meet this requirement?" AMENDED AS FOLLOW: "Considering the SO 1 requirement which CUC must meet, an aggressive schedule for the design and execution of the project is requested."

3. **Scope-of-Work, Page 5, section 2. Introduction:** AMENDED AS FOLLOW: "Systems must be in place and operational by: As soon as possible".

4. **Appendix C** is not required, as price is part of Appendix B. Appendix C stricken from appendices.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW11-IFB-016

Renovation Of Government House #1323 – CNMI Department of Labor

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids proposal **for the Renovation of Government House #1323**, Capital Hill, Mednilla Avenue, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after June 23, 2011 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capital Hill, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. ***Preference is available to US Citizens as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by PublicLaw 15-118, and must be submitted with the BID of preference is claimed.***

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on July 12, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. local time at the Project Site, Gov't Bldg. # 1323-Mednilla Avenue. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on July 19, 2011 to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director, Technical Services Division**, DPW Bldg. #1353 Mednilla Avenue, or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW11-IFB-016"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time July 22, 2011. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time July 22, 2011, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 22, 2011, and must be received no later than August 02, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, August 04, 2011, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on July 27, 2011.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty **(120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars **(US $100.00)** per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-036

GASIFICATION OR WASTE TO ENERGY GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced Independent Power Producers (IPP), to supply electrical energy or synthetic diesel - produced from commercially proven Waste to Energy (WTE) or Gasification systems, for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Gasification or Waste to Energy generation facilities that best fit the CUC's requirements. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) will be the feedstock.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, securing sites, all permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully operational Gasification or Waste to Energy Generating Facilities. Selected IPP(s) will be responsible for operating and maintaining all facets of the Generating Facility (ies) and for generating the required output as described in the Request for Proposal.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 21, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-036 " Gasification or Waste to Energy Generation"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Late submissions will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-037

EXHAUST HEAT RECOVERY PROJECT
ORGANIC RANKINE CYCLE (ORC)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced companies or IPPs, to supply electrical energy produced from commercially proven Exhaust Heat Recovery systems (Organic Rankine Cycle), for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. The heat recovery system will be tied to the exhaust systems on diesel engines at Power Plant No.1 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Exhaust Heat Recovery systems that best fit the CUC's requirements.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, any permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully the Exhaust Heat Recovery Systems.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST),** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-037 " Exhaust Heat Recovery Project"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 18, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Late submissions will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-IFB-11-043
CHALAN KANOA SEWERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. 1

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of Sewer Lift Stations and installation of Force-Main in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) sewerline in two areas of Chalan Kanoa. The first project is to replace and re-locate a section of existing 6 inch ACP sewerline which has collapsed along Texas Road in the vicinity of the Chalan Kanoa cemetery, with 584 linear feet (LF) of 8-inch PVC sewerline and 3 new concrete manholes. The second project is the replacement of 160 LF of existing 6 inch ACP sewerline, between two existing manholes, located on Brigida Street in front of the on-going Sandy Beach Homes project. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 100.00 (non-refundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site-Visit, will be held on **June 30, 2011 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-11-043, Chalan Kanoa Sewerline Replacement Project No. 1"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 14, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00200 - Instructions to Bidders.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 05, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Brian Bearden, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email brian_bearden@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

World

Libya dismisses claim of rebel push from mountains

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Libyan officials claimed Wednesday that government forces remained in control of areas around a mountain range southwest of Tripoli that rebel fighters say they are using as a base to advance toward the capital.

The rebels based in villages in the western Nafusa mountains have been slowly solidifying their hold, forming a second front against Moammar Gadhafi's troops who are also battling rebels on a few fronts east of the capital.

In Paris, a military spokesman said France sent weapons to rebels in the Nafusa mountain region earlier this month.

In recent days, rebels in the mountains claimed to have advanced to the town of Bir al-Ghanam, some 50 miles (80 kilometers) from Tripoli. On Tuesday, they said they took over a large weapons storage site some 20 miles (30 kilometers) south of the mountain town of Zintan.

But Prime Minister Al-Baghdadi al-Mahmoudi played down the reports of mountain rebel advances Wednesday.

"The situation in the western mountains is good, and it's under control," he said when asked about the fighting after a meeting of Cabinet members and municipal governors in a posh sea-front hotel in Tripoli.

The fighting in Libya began in mid-February and has devolved into a civil war, with rebels in control of the eastern third of the country and pockets in the west, including several Nafusa mountain towns. They have been helped by airstrikes conducted by NATO, which launched its campaign under a United Nations mandate to protect civilians.

The municipal governor of Gharyan, a city at the eastern gateway to the mountains and on a major road to Tripoli, acknowledged that there were minor skirmishes with rebels around the town.

But the official, Abdul-Nabi Mohammed Bakir, said the "situation is much better than the news tries to report" and dismissed suggestions of a major rebel advance as incorrect. He spoke to reporters at the meeting in Tripoli, suggesting he remains allied with Gadhafi's government.

"Yes indeed we do have limited numbers of armed individuals who go beyond our lines of defense, just like any thief would do under cover of night. But there are no masses, as you might describe them, of armed rebels," he said. "There are limited numbers of them here or there."

Bakir said he goes to work in Gharyan day and night without being worried about his safety. The city, he said, is "really 100 percent safe from the rebels."

Gharyan lies about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Tripoli.

In Paris, a military spokesman Col. Thierry Burkhard said guns, rocket-propelled grenades and munitions were parachuted in to rebels in the Nafusa mountains following earlier airdrops of humanitarian aid including water, food and medical supplies.

Libyan government spokesman Moussa Ibrahim said he was aware of the French arms aid. He criticized the decision, saying it would only serve "to intensify the fighting on the ground in Libya."

However, a member of the rebel military council in the Nafusa mountains denied that any weapons had been sent.

The official, Col. Gomaa Ibrahim, said rebels would have expressed gratitude, "but we have not received anything from the French forces. We only have weapons (seized) from the Gadhafi forces. ... We have nothing to hide, and we have always asked for help in terms of weapons."

Ibrahim, the rebel official, said the leadership council in the rebels' de facto capital in the east, Benghazi, was seeking to clarify the matter with NATO.

Yemen president orders talks on deal to end crisis

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemen's president, hospitalized in Saudi Arabia after an attack nearly a month ago on his palace, has instructed his deputy to hold talks with political opponents on a deal to transfer power and end the nation's spiraling political crisis, his foreign minister said Wednesday. The opposition, wary after numerous pledges, dismissed the announcement.

Abu Bakr al-Qirbi, the foreign minister, was speaking from neighboring Saudi Arabia after a quick visit with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who was badly burned and suffered other wounds in the June 3 attack on his compound in Yemen's capital, Sanaa.

Nearly five months of protests by crowds calling for his ouster have left Saleh clinging to power. Defections by key allies and immense international pressure have failed to push him to negotiate an end to his nearly 33 years in power.

Saleh's Saudi hosts are among a group of six nations in the Gulf seeking to persuade him to step down, though he has held onto power during his absence through his sons and other relatives, some of whom command military units. But recent days have seen Islamic militants—some believed to have links to al-Qaida—seizing upon the growing chaos to take over entire towns in southern Yemen, and pressure is mounting for a resolution of the crisis.

"The president directed his deputy and the government to begin dialogue with the other parties in the opposition in accordance with the Gulf initiative and the latest U.N. Security Council statement," al-Qirbi said, speaking on Yemeni television.

The Security Council has pressed for inclusive political dialogue.

The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council first proposed a deal for transferring power months ago. In return for stepping down, Saleh and his family would get immunity from prosecution. Saleh promised at least three times to sign the deal but each time balked at that the last minute.

In response to Wednesday's announcement, the opposition said that at this point, anything less than an immediate transfer of power would fall short of their demands.

WORLD BRIEFS

UK: Iran conducting secret ballistic missile tests

LONDON (AP)—Iran has conducted covert tests of ballistic missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads in addition to a 10-day program of public military maneuvers, Britain alleged on Wednesday. Foreign Secretary William Hague told the House of Commons that there had been secret experiments with nuclear-capable missiles, but did not specify precisely when the tests had taken place. Iran has "been carrying out covert ballistic missiles tests and rocket launches, including testing missiles capable of delivering a nuclear payload," Hague said.

Venezuela postpones summit due to Chavez's health

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's government postponed next week's summit of Latin American leaders on Wednesday, citing President Hugo Chavez's health as he recovers from surgery in Cuba. The decision to put off the July 5-6 meeting until later this year was announced shortly after new videos aired on state television showing Chavez chatting with Fidel Castro in Cuba, appearing lucid and talkative. Chavez's televised appearance broke a long post-surgery silence that has prompted speculation about his health. "The president is in the middle of a recuperation process and extremely strict medical treatment," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Off The Wall

Maui man travels 300 miles on a stand-up paddleboard

HONOLULU (AP)—Bart de Zwart expected to be in more pain after paddling 300 miles from the Big Island to Kauai.

"I'm not even sore," he said Monday morning from his Kauai hotel room, where he slept in a bed after arriving to Kalapaki Beach the night before onboard a stand-up paddleboard.

The 41-year-old Maui man spent five days alone at sea attempting what he believes to be the first-ever solo crossing from the Big Island to Kauai on a standup paddleboard. He was headed to a Kauai clinic Monday to have swollen, infected blisters on his feet checked out. Aside from the blisters and losing about six pounds, he said he felt fine.

"This was by far the hardest thing I've done in my life," he said. "I'm glad I did it but I don't think I'll do it again."

The married father of a 12-year-old daughter said he was inspired to embark on the passage by ancient Hawaiians who voyaged in simple canoes. Originally from Holland, de Zwart has lived in Haiku, Maui for 11 years, where owns Kahana Kai Maui surf shop.

Strapped to his 14-foot longboard were enough freeze-dried meals and water in watertight containers for seven days. He slept on inflatable water mattresses glued together to form what resembled a kiddie pool, he explained: "At night, I blew it up and strapped it on the board." The choppy waters and windy conditions would occasionally flip the board over, startling him awake in the water.

It was more mentally challenging than physical.

"The hardest part was survival," he said, "being wet for five days and five nights." He had to focus most of the time on navigating and staying on the north side of the islands, but the solitude allowed his mind to drift to minor details in life such as recent conversations with friends.

He estimated the trip involved more than 215,000 strokes with an 82-inch paddle.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Not guilty plea in Ohio breast-milk spraying case

DELAWARE, Ohio (AP)—A central Ohio woman accused of spraying sheriff's deputies with breast milk has apologized while pleading not guilty. Thirty-year-old Stephanie Robinette said in Delaware County court on Monday that she has no criminal record and takes the charges very seriously. According to multiple news reports, she also pledged to seek help for alcohol abuse. The county sheriff has said deputies responding to a domestic dispute call early Saturday tried to remove Robinette from a car. According to the sheriff, she wouldn't cooperate, said she was a breast-feeding mother, then exposed part of her chest and sprayed deputies with breast milk. The suburban Columbus woman pleaded not guilty to charges including domestic violence, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and assault. A judge released her on her own recognizance.

Seattle police leave rifle unattended on cruiser

SEATTLE (AP)—A Seattle police spokesman says the department is embarrassed after officers left a police rifle unattended on a patrol car outside a busy downtown area. Spokesman Sgt. Sean Whitcomb says the department has launched an investigation. Whitcomb says two people spotted the rifle on the parked car. One flagged down bicycle officers to alert them. The other followed the cruiser as it drove through downtown Seattle and tracked down the driver after the car parked. The alternative weekly The Stranger first reported the incident, posting a picture that shows the rifle sitting on top of the trunk. Whitcomb says such rifles are assigned only to officers who have additional training. They're usually kept in the trunk or between the driver and passenger seats.

Colo. man spends 15 hours in air-conditioning vent

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—A 28-year-old Colorado man was rescued dusty but alive after he was trapped nearly 15 hours in an air-conditioning vent. Englewood police say they responded to calls for help Tuesday from the roof of an elementary school, where they discovered a man trapped 30 feet down the vent. Firefighters had to cut open the vent to pull the man out. The Denver Post reports that the man, who wasn't identified, told police he stole a friend's purse Monday night and threw it on the roof. When he climbed onto the roof to get the purse, he fell into the vent and became stuck.

Man pays $1 Orlando parking fine 35 years late

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A Michigan man has paid a $1 Florida parking ticket more than 35 years overdue. Orlando police say they received Stanley Baker's payment for a Nov. 7, 1975, parking ticket Tuesday. The 89-year-old Pentwater, Mich., man included a note reading, "Better late than never!" Baker's son, Fritz Baker, says his father found the ticket in a book bought at an Orlando garage sale in 1995. He says his father decided to pay the fine as a lark, even though it wasn't issued to him. Baker sent the $1 payment in the ticket's original envelope. That got it delivered to a police department auditorium that was a night and traffic court in 1975. Orlando's parking violations from 1975 have been destroyed. A police spokesman says the department thought Baker's payment was funny.

Maine homeless man charged for charging cellphone

BANGOR, Maine (AP)—Police have brought charges against a homeless man in Maine who helped himself to an outdoor electrical outlet to charge a pair of cellphones. A Bangor police officer checking downtown businesses discovered 23-year-old Shaun Fawster charging his cellphones in an outlet hidden behind some flowers. Fawster was charged last weekend with theft of services, as well as carrying a concealed weapon after the officer found a folding knife tucked underneath his shirt. The Bangor Daily News says Fawster was later released from jail. It's unknown if he has an attorney.

Woman, 89, dents car with cane, helps nab Pa. duo

NEW CASTLE, Pa. (AP)—Pennsylvania police say an 89-year-old woman used her cane to dent the car of two people who stole her friend's purse, and authorities were able to track down the getaway car based in part on the cane's imprint. New Castle police Chief Thomas Sansone says the woman and her 82-year-old friend were accosted outside a pizza shop Sunday. Police say 27-year-old Jerry Brown Jr. grabbed the purse but couldn't peel away before the 89-year-old banged the car's trunk with her cane. Police found the car, and, based on the description of the robber—and dents matching the cane—arrested Brown and 21-year-old Tatiana Vargas. The two are jailed in Lawrence County on robbery charges and on warrants for unrelated crimes. Online court records don't list attorneys for them.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-044

LOAN SERVICING & RELATED COLLECTION ACTION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified collection agencies to provide loan servicing and related collection actions in Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package and Scope-of-Work may be obtained, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 100.00 (non-refundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **July 19, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-044, Loan Servicing & Related Collection Action", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 9 ,2011 at 10:00 AM, (ChST)**. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on **July 22, 2011** to Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email Charles_Warren@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply via email mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-040
DEBT COLLECTION LEGAL SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from from debt collection attorneys to assist in the collection of delinquent utility billings for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The CUC intends to place selected accounts with one or more attorney. Submitted proposals must indicate how the CUC will be kept informed of the progress of each account placed with the attorney,as well as provide a summary and detail report of all accounts placed. In addition, proposals must provide for the total listing of the gross amount of all collections with a separate billing for attorney services rendered.

The RFP Package and the Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 16, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST),** at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-11-040, Debt Collection Legal Services"* to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than July 08, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2011 to Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net; Mr. Manuel Sablan Purchasing Officer msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Science & Technology

Justin Timberlake part of group buying MySpace

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Justin Timberlake apparently wasn't satisfied with just playing a social media impresario in the movies, so now he's becoming one in real life.

The pop star, who played Napster co-founder Sean Parker in "The Social Network," a movie about Facebook, has joined Specific Media in buying its downtrodden rival, MySpace, from News Corp. in a deal that closed Wednesday.

Timberlake will have an office at MySpace's Beverly Hills headquarters and a staff of about a half dozen people working for him "around the clock" developing his ideas for the site, said Specific Media CEO Tim Vanderhook.

The partners are set to unveil their plans for reviving the flagging site in a couple of months.

The deal is for $35 million, mostly in Specific Media stock, according to a person familiar with the matter. That's a small fraction of the $580 million that News Corp. paid for the site six years ago. The sale resulted in the layoff of about half of the site's remaining 500 workers, said the person, who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

As part of the exchange, News Corp. received a private equity stake in Specific Media and less than a 5 percent stake in MySpace. *(AP)*

Google unveils latest social networking feat

NEW YORK (AP)—Online search leader Google Inc. is taking yet another stab at social networking, as it tries to go up against Facebook in this wildly popular and lucrative segment of the Internet. This time the project is called Google+ and it aims to make online sharing more like real life.

"We think people communicate in very rich ways," said Vic Gundotra, senior vice president of engineering at Google. "The online tools we have to choose from give us very rigid services."

Other social networking tools make selective sharing within small groups difficult. They don't allow for the nuances that people are used to in offline communication and because they call so many acquaintances "friends," said Gundotra in a blog post announcing the service.

Overseeing the privacy setting on son's browser

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I am the father of a teenage son. Recently I heard him and a friend discussing the Internet and the advantages of "InPrivate" browsing with the Internet Explorer browser. I am wondering, as a parent, if there any way that I can determine how he is using that feature? Nothing shows in the normal browser history file.—Richard Gustafson, Stillwater, Minn.

ANSWER: Because the "InPrivate" feature of Internet Explorer makes it easy to use the Web without leaving any tracks, there's no way to determine how it's being used.

The only workaround is to use parental-control software that blocks the InPrivate feature.

InPrivate comes with two components that protect privacy in completely different ways.

"InPrivate Browsing" allows people to hide what they do online by leaving no record on the PC of the websites that were visited. It works by automatically deleting cookies (bits of code that identify you to websites) and temporary Internet files (copies of Web pages you've viewed.) In addition, it never stores Web page history or passwords.

The other component, "InPrivate Filtering," detects attempts by websites to track you online, learn your habits and create a profile of you.

InPrivate Filtering works by looking for third-party content (content created by someone other than the website you're viewing), and giving you the option to block it. Why? The third-party content could be a "web beacon," a tiny bit of code that helps websites track your movements.

The InPrivate controls can be over-ridden by Microsoft's free parental control software, called Windows Live Family Safety. Find it at http://www.tinyurl.com/3memymd or at http://www.tinyurl.com/5vmv3nd.

To turn InPrivate's features on and off normally, see http://www.tinyurl.com/27lc6tt and http://www.tinyurl.com/qozysf.

■■■

Q: Sometimes Microsoft Word documents that come as e-mail attachments show up as ".docx" files, and when I open them all I see is garble. Is it encrypted? I use Word 2007. What should I do?—Alan R. Parnes, Maplewood, Minn.

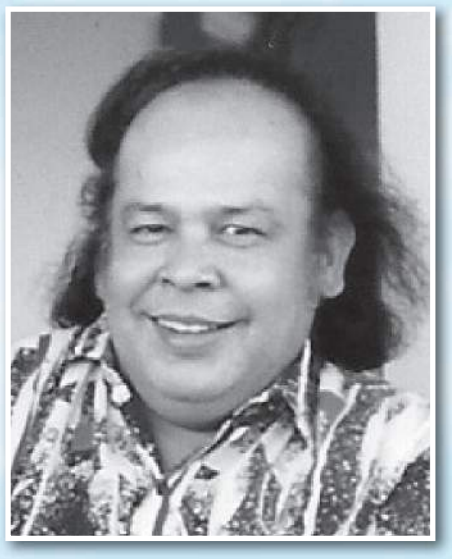
A: The file you've received isn't encrypted, but it is different from the .doc Word files you're used to seeing. Word 2007 introduced the new .docx format, so if you're using Word 2007 you should be able to read those files correctly.

If you can't read them, I suspect you're using an earlier version of Word. If so, download the free "Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel, and PowerPoint File Formats" (http://www.tinyurl.com/234a3yn) that allows you to open, edit or save 2007-era documents with earlier versions of those programs.

In His New Home

EDWARD WILLIAM
PANGELINAN FLORES, JR.

(Lovingly known as "Junior")



born on April 1, 1950, went to his new home
to meet his Creator on June 27, 2011, at the age of 61.

In his new home, ***Junior*** *will be reunited with his:*
Son: *John D. Flores*
Parents: *Edward Ada Flores & Margarita DLG. Pangelinan Flores-Kintol*
Stepfather, Stepbrother and Stepsister-in-law: *Herman M. Kintol, Robert Kintol and Yosko Kintol*
Parents-in-law: *Serafin & Rosario M. Atalig*
Sister & Brothers-in-law: *Rosa A. Camacho, Javier (Abel) M. Atalig, Henry M. Atalig, Juan R. Sablan.*

Loving memories of ***Junior*** *will long be cherished and remembered by his:*
Wife: *Guadalupe (Lupe) Atalig Flores*
Children & Spouses: Mark *& Donna M. Flores [Jonah Edward, Mark Tyler];*
Marissa *F. & John Guerrero [Maria, Juan and Izabela];* ***Margaret*** *F. & Alex Cadag [Gage]; Charlene Flores [Chloe].*

Brothers, Sisters & Spouses: Donald *& Chilang U. Flores & children;* ***Angeline*** *F. Sablan & children;* ***Takesi*** *Kintol & children;* ***Erica*** *K. & Edward Cruz & children;* ***James*** *& Del M. Kintol & children;* ***Jerome*** *& Cristy N. Kintol & children;* ***Becky*** *K. & Juan S. Tenorio & children.*

Reared Brothers & Sisters: *Donna, Lisa, John, Jay, Jennifer & Christina Pangelinan and their families*

Brothers & Sisters-in-Law: Ree *Lee & family;* ***Don*** *& Burdene Atalig & family;* ***Herman*** *Atalig & Tanya King & family;* ***Bernie*** *& Nick Nekai & family;* ***Vicky*** *& Chuck Gums & family;* ***David*** *T. Camacho & family;* ***Marina V. Atalig*** *& family.*

Junior is also loved and cherished by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends.

Daily masses of intention are offered at 6:00 a.m. and Holy Rosary is prayed at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Junior *will be with us for the last time on Tuesday, July 5th, 2011. Visitation and last respects will be welcomed beginning at 7:30 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed immediately with interment at Mount Carmel Cemetery.*

Your thoughts and, most especially, your prayers are sincerely appreciated.

The Family

Fifth Death Anniversary

In Loving Memory of the Late

Thomas Fujihira Ada

Better Know as "Dodo"

Would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 5th death anniversary of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass is offered at the San Antonio Church, which began on June 24th and will end on July 1, 2011. On the final day, Saturday, July 2nd, Eucharistic celebration will be at 6:00pm, San Antonio Church.

The family wholeheartedly invites everyone for dinner after the Mass at their residence in As Gonno.

Your presence and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Bobbie and Children

Life & Style

Javier Colon wins NBC's singing show 'The Voice'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Soulful crooner Javier Colon was crowned the inaugural winner of "The Voice," NBC's new singing contest.

Colon triumphed over three other finalists when the audience vote was announced on Wednesday's live season finale. He will receive a $100,000 prize and a recording contract.

A slim, 2 percent margin separated Colon from second-place Dia Frampton, 23, of St. George, Utah, host Carson Daly said. The other finalists were Vicci Martinez, 26, of Tacoma, Wash., and Beverly McClellan, 41, of Virginia and Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

"Wow, thank you," a stunned-looking Colon said as confetti rained down on him. "The three women behind me are absolutely awesome and it was a pleasure to be here with them."

"The Voice" featured pop stars Christina Aguilera, Cee Lo Green, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton as "coaches" for the contestants. In a twist on the talent show format, the contestants initially were picked sight unseen and on the basis of their voice.

Colon was coached by Maroon 5 frontman Levine, who lifted his arms in victory when Colon's name was announced and then rushed on stage to hug him. Shelton, who coached Frampton, smiled and applauded.

The other pro-contestant pairings were McClellan-Aguilera and Martinez-Green.

During the live finale, the contestants had the chance to perform with other famous singers. Miranda Lambert, who is married to fellow country star Shelton, sang with Frampton; Stevie Nicks with Colon; Pat Monahan of Train with Martinez and OneRepublic's Ryan Tedder with McClellan.

Based on a Dutch series, "The Voice" proved a much-needed ratings hit for NBC and will return to the network's lineup. The next season's casting call is under way at NBC's website.

AP

Javier Colon, winner of "The Voice", right, and Adam Levine pose together after finale of "The Voice" in Burbank, Calif., Wednesday, June 29, 2011. Levine was Colon's coach on the show.

Lohan released from house arrest after 35 days

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan was freed from house arrest Wednesday morning, ending a drama-filled 35 days and opening the next chapter in the troubled starlet's efforts to put her court troubles behind her.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said Lohan's electronic monitoring equipment was removed shortly before 10 a.m. and she was removed from the jail system around 10:20 a.m.

Lohan is not entirely free. She still has to complete 480 hours of community service, complete an anti-shoplifting class and comply with other terms of her release.

Her spokesman, Steve Honig, said Lohan is "very focused" on resuming her community service, which is being performed at a downtown Los Angeles women's shelter and will also require her to work at the county's morgue.

Lohan, 24, was sentenced to four months in jail in May for violating her probation in a 2007 drunken driving case by taking a necklace from a jewelry store without permission earlier this year. She pleaded no contest to the theft and received no additional penalties, but will remain on probation for several more months.

Lohan

Lohan's shorter confinement was the result of jail overcrowding in Los Angeles' only women's jail and mandatory credits, but it was not without drama.

Just days into her captivity, authorities were summoned to Lohan's home in the beachside community of Venice because her monitoring equipment reported her out of the area. The equipment had to be replaced because of a faulty battery in the actress' ankle monitor, and after officials learned that a houseguest had spilled a drink another piece of monitoring equipment.

Lohan was summoned to court last week after probation officials told a judge the actress had tested positive for alcohol. Superior Court Judge Stephanie Sautner determined after reviewing Lohan's case file that the actress was no longer required to undergo random drug tests and that she had not been ordered by a previous judge to abstain from alcohol.

Sautner did order the actress to stop hosting parties while serving house, telling her at one point, "Don't give people a reason to hate you."

Lohan has struggled to put a pair of 2007 drunken driving and drug arrests behind her. She was jailed twice and sent to rehab twice last year for failing to comply with the terms of her probation. She was accused of the necklace theft roughly three weeks after her release from rehab.

Wills, Kate off to Canada, US in first tour

LONDON (AP)—It sounds like a bit of a racket: $4,000 for a three-course meal and a chance to see a polo match up close.

It gets better when you throw in the chance to rub shoulders with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge in southern California, where bragging about having a glass of wine with the new royal couple may be the ultimate Hollywood glamour trip.

The charity event at the Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club will be one of the highlights of the first official overseas trip by Prince William and the former Kate Middleton, which kicks off Thursday in Canada and takes them later to southern California.

There's no doubt the athletic prince and his fashion-forward bride have star power to burn. So far, about 1,000 VIP tickets have been sold to the polo match along with about 400 general admission passes, raising nearly $4.4 million for the July 9 charity event. William plans to play in the match, and his wife will award the trophy to the winning team.

"The members are thrilled to host the royal couple and the public's reaction to this special day and event has been fantastic," said club chairman Glen Holden, a former U.S. ambassador to Jamaica who said he has never seen anything like it in his 38 years with the exclusive polo club.

In Canada, William and Kate will join in raucous Canada Day celebrations, open the Calgary Stampede, and canoeing in the vast northwest territories. They will meet veterans and their families, as well as youth groups in several parts of the country.

Canada's prime minister Wednesday unveiled a personal flag for use during William's visit. It is the first flag to be created by Canada for a member of the royal family since 1962, when Queen Elizabeth II adopted a personal flag for her own use in Canada.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper said the flag was approved by the queen and William.

William plans to demonstrate his skills as a helicopter rescue pilot by taking part in a water landing demonstration, and the couple also plan to put on aprons and take part in a cooking workshop in Quebec City.

They jet to Los Angeles on July 8 and will host a gala dinner there the next night to introduce up-and-coming British film talent to Hollywood executives.

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NOW SHOWING

Transformers: Dark of the Moon
Fri thru Sun 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Mon thru Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00
Shia LaBeouf, Josh Duhamel
Action, Science fiction • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Director Michael Bay returns to wreak more robotic mayhem in this third entry of the Transformers franchise. Penning the further adventures of the Autobots and Decepticons is Ehren Kruger, who co-wrote the second installment, along with Star Trek's Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci.

Monte Carlo
Fri thru Sun 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Mon thru Thurs 1:10 4:10 7:10
Selena Gomez, Leighton Meester
Comedy • Rated PG

Larry Crowne
Friday & Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55
Mon thru Thurs 1:30 4:30 7:30
Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts
Comedy drama • Rated PG 13

Cars 2
Fri thru Sun 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Mon thru Thurs 1:05 4:05 7:05
Owen Wilson, John Turturro
Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis
Ratatouille producer Brad Lewis steps into the director's chair for this sequel that follows race-tack legend Lightning McQueen and his trusty sidekick, Mater, as they secure their passports and prepare to take part in the biggest and fastest race on the planet.

Bad Teacher
Fri thru Sun 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:40
Mon thru Thurs 1:25 4:25 7:25
Cameron Diaz, Justin Timberlake
Comedy • Rated R

Green Lantern
Fri thru Sun 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Mon thru Thurs 1:15 4:15 7:15
Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively
Action • Rated PG 13

Mr. Popper's Penguins
Fri thru Sun 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 1:20 4:20
Jim Carrey, Carla Gugino
Children's/family, Comedy • Rated PG

Super 8
Fri thru Sun 9:30
Mon thru Thurs 7:20
Kyle Chandler, Elle Fannning
Science Fiction • Rated PG 13

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'Transformers' revenues dip with $13.5M for No. 3

AP

In this publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Bumblebee is shown in a scene from "Transformers: Dark of the Moon."

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The giant "Transformers" robots have shrunk a bit in the early going at the box office.

Distributor Paramount Pictures says "Transformers: Dark of the Moon" launched with $13.5 million domestically in screenings Tuesday night and Wednesday morning.

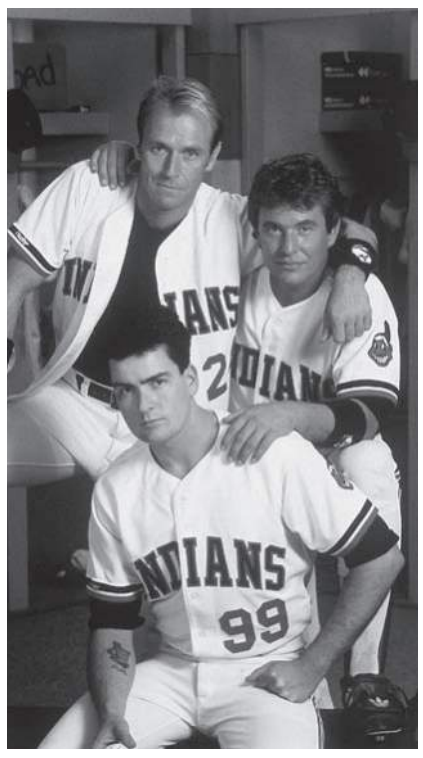
That's less than the $16.6 million that the second of the three "Transformers" flicks, "Revenge of the Fallen," took in from midnight screenings alone two years ago. "Revenge of the Fallen" went on to top $400 million domestically and $800 million worldwide.

"Dark of the Moon" pulled in $5.5 million from screenings that started at 9 p.m. or later Tuesday at about 2,700 theaters. The movie added $8 million at about 3,000 cinemas in post-midnight showings overnight.

The comparison to "Revenge of the Fallen" is worse considering that 70 percent of revenues for "Dark of the Moon" came from 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D showings. That means even fewer tickets sold than for early screenings of "Revenge of the Fallen," which played only in 2-D.

Still, "Dark of the Moon" is expected to do huge business the rest of the week and over the Fourth of July weekend, one of the year's busiest times at theaters.

Paramount has expanded the movie domestically to about 4,000 theaters.



Sheen says he took steroids during 'Major League'

NEW YORK (AP)—Turns out Wild Thing's fastball had a little extra juice. Actor Charlie Sheen tells Sports Illustrated in its latest issue that he took steroids "for like six or eight weeks" while filming the 1989 movie "Major League." He adds that the performance-enhancing drugs helped his fastball go from 79 mph to 85 mph.

Sheen played fireballing relief pitcher Ricky "Wild Thing" Vaughn, whose wayward pitches were often "jussst a bit outside," as Bob Uecker's character, radio broadcaster Harry Doyle, sarcastically announced during the hit comedy.

Sheen, who has made recent headlines for erratic behavior and his firing from the show "Two and a Half Men," says it was the only time he took steroids and they made him a bit more irritable than normal.

In this 1989 image provided by Paramount Pictures, Tom Berenger, right, plays Cleveland Indians catcher Jake Taylor, Charlie Sheen, below, is the team's pitcher Ricky Vaughn, and Corbin Bernsen, above, plays third baseman Roger Dorn in the Paramount comedy "Major League." AP

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

2 year sentence for convicted Hilton trespasser

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man convicted of attempting to burglarize Paris Hilton's home has been sentenced to two years in state prison. City News Service reported that Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Kellogg also recommended during Wednesday's hearing that Nathan Lee Parada undergo mental health counseling. A jury took less than an hour in April to convict the 32-year-old of felony attempted residential burglary for trying to break into Hilton's house in August. The socialite testified during Parada's trial about being awoken early Aug. 24 to the sound of Parada banging on Hilton's window with a knife. Parada told a detective he planned to steal as much as he could carry and move to a deserted island. His defense attorney argued that Parada had not taken antidepressant medication for days before his arrest.

Kim Cattrall to return to Broadway this fall

NEW YORK (AP)—Kim Cattrall will soon be sipping cocktails on a Broadway stage. The "Sex and the City" is reprising her role in Noel Coward's "Private Lives" when the comedy hits New York this fall following a run in London last year. It's the tale of a divorced couple who discover they have adjoining rooms while honeymooning with their new spouses. Cattrall, who made her Broadway debut in "Wild Honey" with Sir Ian McKellen, will be joined by Paul Gross, star of the TV shows "Due South" and "Slings and Arrows." Simon Paisley Day, Anna Madeley and Caroline Olsson make up the rest of the cast. The show will stop in Toronto prior to Broadway. Previews are to begin Nov. 6 at the Music Box Theatre with an official opening Nov. 17.

Bernadette Peters to take 'Follies' to Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Bernadette Peters and the rest of the stars of the Kennedy Center production of "Follies" will be moving north to Broadway. Producers said Wednesday that Peters will join Jan Maxwell, Danny Burstein and Ron Raines when the show starts previews Aug. 7 at the Marquis Theatre. It closes Sunday in Washington and officially opens Sept. 12 in New York. The musical, featuring a book by James Goldman and a score by Stephen Sondheim, will have a 28-piece orchestra and a 41-person cast, with additional casting to be announced at a future date. This production is the show's second Broadway revival. It will be directed by Eric Schaeffer and will feature musical direction by James Moore and choreography by Warren Carlyle.

SC Gov. Nikki Haley has book coming out in January

NEW YORK (AP)—South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has a book deal. Sentinel, a conservative imprint of Penguin Group (USA), announced Wednesday that Haley's "Can't is Not an Option" will come out in January. Haley, a Republican and tea party favorite, was elected last year. At 39, she is the country's youngest governor and only the second Indian-American governor. In an interview in March with The Associated Press, Haley said writing had been "therapeutic" and that she would cover everything from growing up in rural South Carolina to her contentious 2010 campaign, when she faced—and denied—allegations of infidelity. She said she was not planning a run for national office, although her literary representative, Washington attorney Robert Barnett, has negotiated deals for Presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

Dove Awards for gospel return to Atlanta in 2012

ATLANTA (AP)—Organizers of the Dove Awards will bring the gospel and Christian music show back to Atlanta for a second straight year. Gospel Music Association board chairman Mitchell Solarek said this year's awards exceeded expectations to expand the reach of the show, which had been held for 41 years in Nashville, Tenn. The broadcast of the sold-out April show at Atlanta's Fox Theater got the awards' highest ratings on GMC—formerly known as the Gospel Music Channel—with more than 1.5 million viewers. The 43rd awards show will be held in April 2012. The venue has not been decided yet.

Constant state of fear around men is abuse victim's legacy

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing because I'm afraid I will never be able to have a normal, healthy relationship with a man. Until recently, I was the victim of a physically, verbally and sexually abusive father. Now I find myself unable to speak around even the most nonthreatening boy.

At even the slightest hint of aggression or anger I flinch and run away. I'm afraid I will never escape the shadow of what he did to me. What should I do?

SHY AND BATTERED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR SHY AND BATTERED: For you to move from victim to survivor will take professional help. Few people are able to completely overcome the abuse you have experienced on their own. A good first step would be to contact R.A.I.N.N., the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. Its website is www.rainn.org and its toll-free phone number is 800-656-4673. The counselors there can guide you in finding help to repair your life.

Men like your father belong behind bars, where they can't hurt helpless children. If he would sexually and physically abuse you, no child is safe around him. If there are minors still living with your parents, the police should be notified about what he did to you so they can be rescued.

DEAR ABBY: I have been happily married for six years. My husband is kind, caring and honest. Our only problem involves jewelry. I'm not very good at wearing my wedding ring every day. I can be forgetful and clumsy, and I have misplaced it, almost dropped it down the drain, etc. I have tried wearing it around my neck, but it just gets in the way.

My husband wears his ring every day and says he doesn't mind if I don't wear mine because he trusts me. My problem is other people. My co-workers are suspicious. My family thinks it's "strange." Men have hit on me, and when I politely told them I'm married, they became angry and asked where my ring is.

Abby, I don't do or say anything to lead people on, and I often mention that I'm happily married. I'm becoming frustrated and have even considered getting a tattoo on my ring finger so that people know I'm married. My husband says not to let it bother me; that he doesn't care about what others think. Any suggestions?

NO RING ON IT, COLUMBIA, MO.

DEAR NO RING ON IT: I do not recommend getting your finger tattooed to allay your co-workers' suspicions or because some fool becomes angry that you don't welcome his advances. My recommendation is to listen to the secure, mature man you married and stop worrying so much about what other people think.

DEAR ABBY: My wife makes snarky comments to our extremely nice daughter-in-law. Our son finally had enough and has issued an ultimatum to his mother: Either change her ways or she won't be able to see their child.

Our first grandchild is due soon. Has our son gone too far? What can this grandpa-to-be do when Grandma-to-be claims she "doesn't care," even though I know she's lying to herself?

NOT FAIR TO ME IN SAN JOSE

DEAR NOT FAIR TO YOU: Has your son said that YOU won't be welcome to visit your grandchild? If not, I'm sure you will be welcome minus his mother. I respect your son for drawing the line and insisting his wife be treated with respect, which his mother hasn't been doing. Because you can't control her behavior or her mouth, invest in cartons of tissue because I predict she'll be needing a lot of them when the baby arrives and she's sitting by herself, persona non grata.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

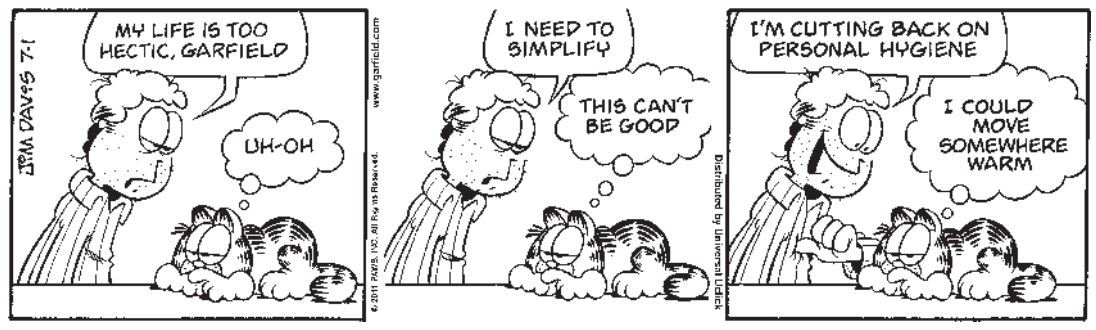
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


MY LIFE IS TOO HECTIC, GARFIELD
UH-OH
I NEED TO SIMPLIFY
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD
I'M CUTTING BACK ON PERSONAL HYGIENE
I COULD MOVE SOMEWHERE WARM

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OK, DAY ONE OF "THE CLEANSE." YOU CAN HAVE WATER AND A HANDFUL OF BERRIES.
CAN I TRADE THE BERRIES FOR A HANDFUL OF COFFEE?
NO.
CAN I RUN THE WATER THROUGH THE COFFEE MAKER? THERE MIGHT BE REMNANTS.
YOU'RE MISSING THE SPIRIT OF WHAT "THE CLEANSE" IS ALL ABOUT.
NO, I'M MISSING THE SPIRIT THAT COFFEE USED TO GIVE ME.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

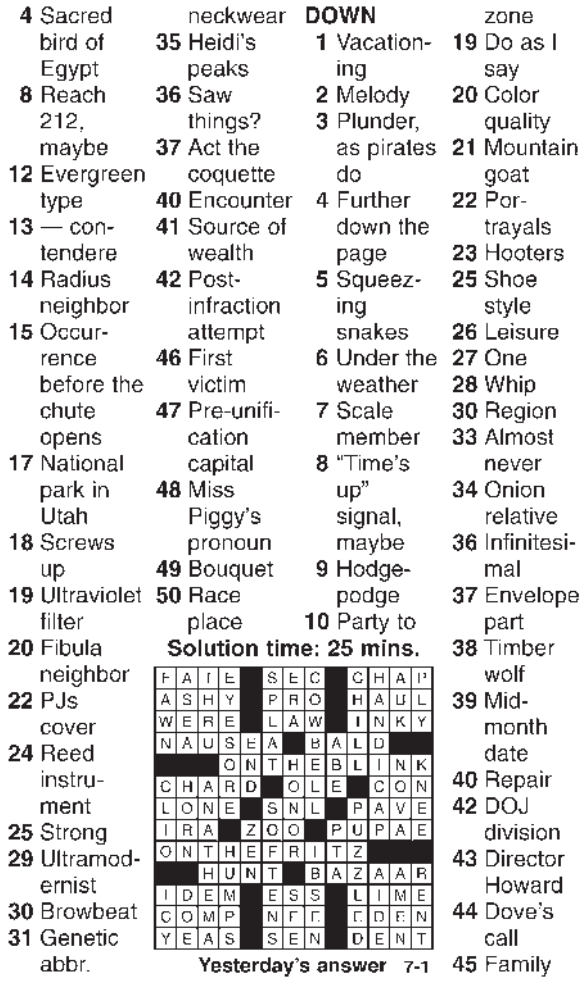
ACROSS
1 Klutzy sort
4 Sacred bird of Egypt
8 Reach 212, maybe
12 Evergreen type
13 — contendere
14 Radius neighbor
15 Occurrence before the chute opens
17 National park in Utah
18 Screws up
19 Ultraviolet filter
20 Fibula neighbor
22 PJs cover
24 Reed instrument
25 Strong
29 Ultramodernist
30 Browbeat
31 Genetic abbr.
32 High and low points
34 Island neckwear
35 Heidi's peaks
36 Saw things?
37 Act the coquette
40 Encounter
41 Source of wealth
42 Post-infraction attempt
46 First victim
47 Pre-unification capital
48 Miss Piggy's pronoun
49 Bouquet
50 Race place
51 A billion years

DOWN
1 Vacationing
2 Melody
3 Plunder, as pirates do
4 Further down the page
5 Squeezing snakes
6 Under the weather
7 Scale member
8 "Time's up" signal, maybe
9 Hodgepodge
10 Party to
11 Strike zone?
16 Canal zone
19 Do as I say
20 Color quality
21 Mountain goat
22 Portrayals
23 Hooters
25 Shoe style
26 Leisure
27 One
28 Whip
30 Region
33 Almost never
34 Onion relative
36 Infinitesimal
37 Envelope part
38 Timber wolf
39 Mid-month date
40 Repair
42 DOJ division
43 Director Howard
44 Dove's call
45 Family

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	A	I	E		S	E	C		C	H	A	I'
A	S	H	Y		P	R	O		H	A	U	L
W	E	R	E		L	A	W		I	N	K	Y
N	A	U	S	E	A		B	A	L	D		
			O	N	T	H	E	B	L	I	N	K
C	H	A	R	D		O	L	E		C	O	N
L	O	N	E		S	N	L		P	A	V	E
I	R	A		Z	O	O		P	U	P	A	E
O	N	T	H	E	F	R	I	T	Z			
			H	U	N	T		B	A	Z	A	R
I	D	E	M		E	S	S		L	I	M	E
C	O	M	P		N	F	L		L	O	F	N
Y	E	A	S		S	E	N		D	E	N	T

Yesterday's answer 7-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Liv Tyler, 34; Missy Elliott, 40; Pamela Anderson, 44; Dan Aykroyd, 59

Happy Birthday: Nothing will remain the same for long and your ability to adapt will be key to how well you do this year. Strength, dedication and not giving in will be necessary, along with taking care of whatever responsibilities come your way. There will be tests, challenges and preparation for bigger and better opportunities. Your numbers are 7, 18, 23, 28, 32, 36, 43

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A personal problem at home will develop if you aren't careful in the way you handle people. The more aware you are of the pitfalls that can occur, the less chance that you will end up being disappointed and disgruntled. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): New acquaintances will develop with people you meet through events or activities. Your input will intrigue someone who has interesting plans that can benefit from what you have to offer. Don't underestimate yourself. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Reuniting with old friends will help you put your life back in perspective. Remembering your dreams and aspirations will help you make a decision that will affect your future prosperity. An unexpected offering will set your mind at ease. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Your emotions will be difficult to control. Spend time developing creative ideas or discussing vacation plans with someone you love. Learn whatever you can through experience or from an expert. Don't let the changes disrupt your world or cause you worry. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take a unique approach to finance, budgeting and building your assets. You don't have to overspend to get ahead. Show your ability to be prudent, efficient and practical and you can advance. Take a trip if it will lead to a promotion or professional security. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Choose to help others and, in the end, you will be helping yourself. Check out opportunities by attending a tradeshow or signing up for a business seminar. Don't let a relationship cost you emotionally or financially. Make last-minute changes to prevent an unfortunate loss. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Do something that will make you happy and boost your confidence. A little rest and relaxation or pampering will do you good. Updating your image will give you a change of attitude regarding your personal life and what you can achieve. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You need to figure out what you want to do next and there is no better way than to do the things you enjoy the most. Once you are relaxed and feeling good, you will recognize a profitable endeavor that can lead to personal and financial victory. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Love can be a wonderful thing, but encountering a fickle situation with someone is likely if you let temptation take over. Don't be led astray. Liven up a good relationship that needs a pick-me-up. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let someone cost you. Paying for others' mistakes doesn't help. Put your money into your home, your family investments and travel plans. Your strength and courage will lead to your success. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Stay within your means and you will avoid a stressful situation. A decision regarding your residence will help to stabilize your life. Someone special will make you an offer you cannot refuse. A commitment will help you stay focused. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Initiate some of your old ideas and incorporate them into your current goals. Success awaits you. Networking will allow you to choose the best person possible to join your team. Don't let love cost you emotionally or financially. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and giving. You are open and honest and believe in family values.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8				3				
		9	8					
	1				7	9		
	7			4		2		
4			7		1			8
		6		2			9	
		5	3				6	
					9	4		
				7				5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	7	8	3	6	4	5	9	1
5	6	1	8	9	7	2	3	4
9	4	3	5	1	2	6	8	7
8	3	5	6	7	9	4	1	2
7	9	4	1	2	5	8	6	3
1	2	6	4	8	3	7	5	9
4	5	9	2	3	6	1	7	8
6	1	7	9	4	8	3	2	5
3	8	2	7	5	1	9	4	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/30

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FRENCH CANADIAN PEA SOUP Solution: 6 letters

K	R	O	P	E	P	I	C	E	R	E	N	N	I	D
V	I	N	E	G	A	R	E	M	M	I	S	D	Q	E
E	C	A	R	R	O	T	S	S	E	C	I	P	S	L
G	H	L	B	H	E	A	R	T	Y	N	K	Y	T	I
E	N	E	R	I	R	S	U	E	E	C	R	R	N	C
T	O	I	A	S	A	T	P	V	I	O	A	G	A	I
A	U	S	N	T	G	Y	O	H	V	D	R	A	R	O
B	R	U	D	O	U	T	T	A	I	E	M	R	U	U
L	I	R	I	R	S	O	S	T	D	A	E	L	A	S
E	S	E	S	Y	P	A	I	I	E	I	A	I	T	E
S	H	L	H	P	U	O	E	R	O	M	L	C	S	R
T	I	Y	I	S	N	N	C	S	B	N	R	L	E	V
L	N	N	A	A	T	H	Y	M	E	E	I	U	R	I
A	G	G	L	S	T	S	I	R	U	O	T	O	O	N
S	E	C	Y	L	I	M	A	F	I	L	L	I	N	G

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Brand, Carrots, Cream, Delicious, Dill, Dine, Dinner, Dish, Family, Filling, Garlic, Gourmet, Hearty, History, Ingredients, Leisurely, Meal, Nourishing, Onion, Pork, Pots, Recipe, Restaurants, Rich, Salt, Sausage, Savory, Seasoning, Serving, Simmer, Spices, Stove, Sugar, Tasty, Thick, Thyme, Toppings, Tourists, Traditional, Vegetables, Vinegar

Yesterday's Answer: Husband

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Romeo	2	Juliet	2
Antony	1	Cleopatra	1
Lancelot	3	Guinevere	3
Samson	2	Delilah	2
Napoleon	4	Josephine	4

WHATZIT? © 2011 www.whatzit.com Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

Alexander and Vivian Limes
P.O. Box 501641
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 288-0886

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF: ZEPHANIAH JOEL SALAS LIMES Minor Child, by ALEXANDER WABOL LIMES and VIVIAN SALAS LIMES Petitioners	FCD AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 11 - 0275 NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Adoption for the above-named minor child by Alexander and Vivian Limes Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Adoption will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Perry B. Inos on 1st day of August, 2011 at 1:30 P.M. or as soon as thereafter

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Computer Repair
Only $25 Minor Problem
WE ALSO FIX LAPTOP & USED PARTS
17" Monitor – FOR SALE
233-5641
Open: 7 Days a Week 9:00am - 9:00pm

Wanted to Buy
Concrete-Barracks, House or Building
Beach Rd. or Middle Rd. - Villages OK
Clear Title - $15,000.00 Cash
Call: 888-2569
michael.dilley@choicephonellc.com

FRIENDSHIP
U.S. Gentlemen. 60 yrs. Would like to meet a Thailand lady for companion. Possible Marriage.
Call: 789-4209

FOR SALE
"Yosuko Restaurant"
2nd Floor of Bobby Cadillac Shop
Please call – 483-6668

WHATZIT Solution: No love lost

VACANCY
J.C. Tenorio Ent, Inc., is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position
HVAC TECHNICIAN
Please apply in person at the J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. Human Resources Office Joeten Center, Susupe
(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)

SUV's FOR SALE

SIENNA 2004
SILVER COLOR
7 PASSENGER

CHEVY VAN 2004
WHITE COLOR
15 PASSENGER

Pls inquire with Mr. Kim at 287-6628

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

1 br. furnished apt. near MHS with AC in a quiet area off Texas Rd. 24hrs water & own washing machine, ceiling fans in all rooms. $375, water included. Call Ed 788-6268.

FOR SALE

Construction corporation with good records and a well known restaurant business for sale. For more information please call 483-1123.

CARS FOR SALE

2005 Toyota Matrix; Color: Red; Mileage: 95,800; Excellent Condition! Sale Price: $6,500.
2008 Hyundai Tucson; Color: Green; Mileage: 45,000; Excellent Condition! Sale Price: $11,200.
Interested, Call: 287-7676

Commercial and Residential Bldg. MMC II Chalan Kanoa
For Inquiries, Please call MMCat 235-8980
FOR LEASE/RENT

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

OPENING DATE: JUNE 8, 2011 * CLOSING DATE: JULY 8, 2011 TIME: 4:30 PM

"HOUSING INSPECTOR/HOUSING SPECIALIST TECHNICIAN I"

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **Joshua T. Sasamoto**
Corporate Director

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB# RF11-004

"REPLACEMENT OF PUMP SYSTEM AT NMI RETIREMENT BUILDING"

The Northern Marianas Retirement Fund (Fund) is soliciting sealed bids for Replacement of Pump System at the Northern Marianas Retirement building, Capitol Hill Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The bid documents and scope of work package is available beginning on Friday, June 17, 2011 at the Northern Marianas Retirement Fund Building.

There will be a pre-bid conference on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 10:00 am at the Fund Conference Room, Capitol Hill Saipan. Questions regarding the project must be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 664-8080 or emailed to Dion Mesta at mestad@nmiretirement.com no later than June 29, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked IFB# RF11-004 and submitted with one (1) original and three (3) copies to the Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund, P.O. Box 501247, Saipan, MP, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands not later than 10:00 am, local time, July 11, 2011. If no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 10:00 a.m. local time July 15, 2011 at the Fund Conference Room, Capitol Hill Saipan.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Administrator, no later than 10:00 am local time on July 11, 2011 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-8080 or email to administrator01@nmiretirement.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 11, 2011 and must be received no later than July 18, 2011 in which case all bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., July 19, 2011.

/s/ Richard S. Villagomez
Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-DPW/ED-110

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 26, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ENERGY EFFICIENT ENERGY STAR RATED COMPACT FLORESCENT LAMPS (CFL'S) FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – ENERGY OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP ON OR AFTER JUNE 24, 2011 AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD LOCATED ON THE THIRD (3RD) FLOOR OF THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA OFFICE #315, SUSUPE OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO **cfls@recovery.gov.mp.**

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MS. ALFREDA CAMACHO VIA E-MAIL TO cfls@recovery.gov.mp OR FAX TO (670) 234-3016 **NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, JULY 14, 2011.**

THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED UNDER THE CNMI ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECGS) – AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA). THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ MICHEAL J. ADA
CNMI ARRA LEAD

/S/ THELMA B. INOS
DIRECTOR OF ENERGY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-DPW/ED-105

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 25, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING UPGRADE PROJECT"

COMPLETE COPIES OF BID PACKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER JUNE 24, 2011 AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD, LOCATED IN THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA, THIRD FLOOR, OFFICE #315 OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO **pss_lighting_upgrade@recovery.gov.mp**

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **pss_lighting_upgrade@recovery.gov.mp** OR FAX TO (670) 664-3016 NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, JULY 13, 2011.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

/S/ THELMA B. INOS
DIRECTOR OF ENERGY DIV.

/S/ MICHAEL J. ADA
CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD

Federer loses at Wimbledon despite 2-set lead

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—For two superb sets Wednesday, everything looked so routine for Roger Federer, precisely the way it did for so many years at Wimbledon—and nearly everywhere else, too.

Little comes easily for Federer anymore, even at the All England Club, where he's won six of his record 16 major championships.

Before Wednesday, Federer was 178-0 when taking the first two sets of a Grand Slam match.

Now he's 178-1.

Facing a younger, quicker and better-serving opponent, Federer failed to make his big lead stand up and lost 3-6, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 to 12th-seeded Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France in the quarterfinals. Federer leaves Wimbledon in that round for the second consecutive year, after reaching seven finals in a row from 2003-09.

Nevertheless, Federer sounded defiant in defeat, saying he played well against Tsonga and is sure he "definitely can" add to his Grand Slam collection, even though he'll turn 30 in August.

"When I was 20, I would have been crushed: 'I can't go on; I'll never get another chance to be in a quarterfinal of a Grand Slam.' But today, I know that I should probably have lots more," said Federer, who lost in the French Open final earlier this month. "I don't have that mental stress. I know what I've accomplished already. It's different when you're older and you've accomplished as much as I have."

The third-seeded Federer's loss prevented the 125th edition of Wimbledon from being the first since 1995 with the four top men in the semifinals.

The other favorites all won Wednesday, though not without some difficulty: No. 1 Rafael Nadal numbed his injured left foot with a painkilling injection then beat No. 10 Mardy Fish of the United States 6-3, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4; No. 2 Novak Djokovic was a break down in the third set but reeled off seven games in a row to get past 18-year-old qualifier Bernard Tomic of Australia 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5; and No. 4 Andy Murray pulled up awkwardly after tweaking his hip changing directions on one third-set point but otherwise breezed past unseeded Feliciano Lopez of Spain 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

"There are other players that are able to play great tennis, and Tsonga has proved it today," said Djokovic, who would replace Nadal at No. 1 in the ATP rankings by reaching the final. "It's all very close at this level, especially in the second week of a Grand Slam."

In Friday's semifinals, Tsonga will face Djokovic, who is 46-1 in 2011, the only loss coming to Federer at the French Open. Defending champion Nadal will play Murray, who hopes to give Britain its first men's title at the All England Club in 75 years.

AP

Switzerland's Roger Federer reacts during his match against France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Wednesday, June 29, 2011.

Although Fish thought Nadal moved well against him and showed no sign of injury, the 10-time major champion said: "My foot is not fine. But we are in quarterfinals of Wimbledon. Is an emergency, so I had to play."

Nadal is on a 19-match winning streak at the grass-court Grand Slam, and is 31-2 since the start of the 2006 tournament; both losses were against Federer in finals.

He's 11-4 against Murray, including a victory in last year's Wimbledon semifinals.

"You get pushed more and more as the rounds go on," said Murray, a three-time major runner-up. "I'm sure in the next round, I'm going to get pushed even harder, and I'm going to have to up my game again."

Federer, meanwhile, remains one Wimbledon trophy short of the men's record of seven, shared by Pete Sampras and Willie Renshaw, whose titles came in the 1880s.

"I thought my game was plenty good enough this year to win the tournament," Federer said. "Unfortunately, there's only one that can win it, and the rest go home empty-handed. That's what happened to me today. Jo played an amazing match."

That certainly is true.

Tsonga lost the first game he served—and then didn't face a break point the rest of the way. He finished with an 18-17 edge in aces and a 63-57 edge in total winners. And Tsonga managed to break Federer's serve once in each of the last three sets.

Most impressive of all, Tsonga hung in there even after falling so far behind.

"I was feeling really strong because I never—how you say that?—panic. I was, all the time, really focused," Tsonga said. "I was not scared on big points."

The 26-year-old Tsonga reached the 2008 Australian Open final before losing to Djokovic, who won that tournament again this year. But what appeared to be a rapid rise for Tsonga stalled, in part because of injuries to both knees.

He split with his coach in April and has yet to hire another. What Tsonga does not lack at the moment is self-belief.

Asked if he thinks he could win Wimbledon this year, Tsonga replied: "Um, why not?"

Wednesday's match was only his fifth career major quarterfinal; Federer has been at least that far at each of the past 29 Grand Slam tournaments. But after getting to the semifinals at a record 23 consecutive majors, Federer now has lost in the quarterfinals at three of the past five.

Inevitably, a reporter wanted to know whether Federer felt as if this were the end of an era.

"No, I don't think so," Federer said. "Wasn't a shocker, second-round loss in straight sets, some stupid match I played. It was a great match, I think, from both sides."

The quality was high, the exchanges entertaining. According to the official statistics, 120 points ended on winners by one man or the other—and only 33 ended on unforced errors. The highlight might have been a 25-stroke point in the second set's 10th game: After diving to his right for a volley that Federer tapped back, Tsonga tried in vain to jump headfirst to his left. He wound up chucking his racket in the ball's direction and belly flopping, then stayed prone on the court, face down and motionless, for several seconds, as Centre Court spectators rose to their feet, applauding the effort.

The fans gave another standing ovation before Tsonga came out to serve for the match in the fifth set. Perhaps they were saluting both players, but it felt as if they were telling Federer, "Thanks for the memories."

Tsonga had started turning things around by ripping a forehand passing winner to break Federer for the first time and take a 2-1 lead in the third set. Tsonga broke to 2-1 in the fourth with another forehand winner, then jogged to the sideline with his right fist aloft. The final break came in the fifth set's opening game, when Federer put a forehand into the net.

"I'm the kind of player," Tsonga said, "who likes these big moments."

For so long, that was an apt description of Federer. But he could not get back into this match, because Tsonga wouldn't let him. Tsonga won 40 of 49 points in his service games over the last two sets, closing the match with service winners at 135 mph, then 133 mph.

When it ended, Tsonga dropped to his knees at the baseline, then did his usual victory celebration, hopping across the court and shaking his fists near his head.

"It's not just his backhand or forehand or serve or physical or mental game—at the end, it's an overall effort. He was very strong. On the big points, he played his best, he took chances and risks," Federer said. "It's hard to accept, because I thought I was at least as good as he was."

Tiger Woods to pitch heat rub in Japan

NAGOYA, Japan (AP)—Tiger Woods has signed a three-year deal to promote a Japanese pain reliever, his first endorsement since he was caught in a sex scandal toward the end of 2009.

The deal with Kowa Company Ltd. is geared only toward the market in Japan. Woods already has filmed commercials for "Vantelin Kowa," a heat rub used to relieve muscle and joint pain. The commercial is to be shown in Japan starting next month.

"When looking for a person for a new TV commercial for the Vantelin Kowa series, Kowa determined that Tiger Woods, with his No. 1 accomplishment as a golfer and his overwhelming presence, matches the promotional direction of the Vantelin Kowa series," the company said in a press release. "And we asked Mr. Woods for his cooperation in our new TV commercial."

Mark Steinberg, his agent, said it was a three-year deal that involves television, print and Internet ads in Japan. He did not disclose how much the company is paying Woods.

Woods once had an endorsement portfolio worth nearly $90 million a year. But failures in his personal life led to Accenture, AT&T and Gatorade dropping him as a sponsor, and Gillette deciding not to renew its deal.

"I'm not looking at this as his first deal, or a second deal," Steinberg said Wednesday. "I look at this as showing he's a global attraction. I expect to have some other announcements by the balance of the year."

AP

Tiger Woods makes remarks during a news conference at the AT&T National golf tournament at the Aronimink Golf Club Tuesday, June 28, 2011, in Newtown Square, Pa.

Steinberg said an endorsement for Woods' golf bag—he has been without one since he returned to golf at the 2010 Masters—was not necessarily the highest priority. He said he was in discussion with various companies, but any deal probably would wait until after Woods gets back to competition.

Woods has not played since May 12, when he withdrew after nine holes from The Players Championship with knee and Achilles injuries. He said Tuesday he had no timetable for his return, only that it would not happen until he was fully healthy.

Boston Red Sox pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka, who is sidelined after elbow reconstruction surgery, has also promoted the Vantelin heat rub on Japanese TV.

This isn't the first time Woods has endorsed products in Japan. He appeared in commercials for canned iced coffee in the late 1990s.

Ibanez, Worley lead Phillies over Red Sox

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Raul Ibanez hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the seventh, Vance Worley pitched seven strong innings and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Boston Red Sox 2-1 on Wednesday night.

In a series billed as a World Series preview, the major league-leading Phillies (51-30) have taken two straight and go for a sweep Thursday.

Worley (3-1) allowed one run and five hits. The rookie right-hander has filled in nicely for injured starters Roy Oswalt and Joe Blanton.

Michael Stutes pitched a perfect eighth and Antonio Bastardo finished for his third save and first filling in for Ryan Madson.

Boston's John Lackey (5-7) gave up two runs and eight hits in 7 2-3 innings in one of his best starts this season. He lowered his ERA from 7.36 to 6.81.

The Red Sox have lost six of seven since going 14-2.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Raul Ibanez, right, celebrates with third base coach Juan Samuel after hitting a home run off Boston Red Sox starting pitcher John Lackey in the eighth inning of an interleague baseball game on Wednesday, June 29, 2011, in Philadelphia.

Yankees 5, Brewers 2

At New York, A.J. Burnett pitched neatly into the eighth inning and Russell Martin hit a three-run homer as the New York Yankees maintained its winning momentum.

Robinson Cano tripled to start a four-run fourth inning and Jorge Posada rounded the bases twice on his solo shot in the sixth, which was changed to a home run after umpires watched the video replay.

Nick Swisher had an RBI single for the Yankees, who have won four straight and 14 of 18 overall.

Ryan Braun had three singles and an RBI for the Brewers, extending his career-best hitting streak to 19 games.

Angels 1, Nationals 0

At Anaheim, California, Dan Haren allowed two hits through 7 1-3 innings as the Los Angeles Angels swept past Davey Johnson's new team.

The 68-year-old Johnson took over the Nationals this week, returning as a major league manager for the first time since 2000. Washington had won 13 of 15 going into the series at Anaheim, with most of the wins coming before manager Jim Riggleman resigned.

Mets 16, Tigers 9

At Detroit, Scott Hairston launched a bases-loaded triple and Ronny Paulino contributed four hits as part of another offensive barrage by New York, which beat Detroit.

The Mets set a team record by scoring 52 runs in a four-game span, STATS LLC said. They have 69 hits during their spree.

Tigers utilityman Don Kelly got the final out, becoming the first Detroit position player to pitch since 2000.

Miguel Cabrera hit two of Detroit's five homers. The Mets romped despite not hitting any home runs.

White Sox 3, Rockies 2

At Denver, A.J. Pierzynski drove in his second run of the game with a sacrifice fly in the ninth inning as Chicago held on to beat Colorado.

Carlos Quentin and Paul Konerko hit singles off Huston Street (0-2) to start the ninth with Quentin getting to third on Konerko's hit. Street struck out Alexei Ramirez before Pierzynski, who had an RBI double earlier, drove a fly ball to right field.

Reds 4, Rays 3

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Ryan Hanigan hit a three-run homer off James Shields as Cincinnati beat Tampa Bay.

Hanigan connected with two out in the fourth for his first homer since going deep twice April 3 against Milwaukee.

Shields (8-5) had given up just two runs in his previous three starts, all of which were complete-game wins.

Edinson Volquez (5-3) gave up three runs and four hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Evan Longoria hit a two-run double and B.J. Upton went deep for Tampa Bay. Upton has four homers in his last six games.

Braves 5, Mariners 3

At Seattle, Freddie Freeman dominated pitcher Felix Hernandez with three hits and two RBIs as Atlanta completed an impressive three-game sweep that included victories over Seattle's best starting pitchers.

The Braves won for the eighth time in 10 games and picked up their 25th road victory of the season. They handed losses to Hernandez, rookie star Michael Pineda and Erik Bedard during their rare trip to Seattle.

Dustin Ackley hit a two-run homer for Seattle.

Cardinals 5, Orioles 1

At Baltimore, Chris Carpenter scattered seven hits for his second complete game of the season and Colby Rasmus homered as St. Louis downed Baltimore.

Carpenter (3-7) threw a season-high 132 pitches to win his second straight start following a five-game losing streak. The right-hander struck out five, walked one and surrendered just one extra-base hit—an RBI double to Nick Markakis in the third inning.

Carpenter's other complete game came on May 25, an eight-inning effort in a 3-1 loss at San Diego.

Rasmus hit a two-run shot off Chris Jakubauskas (2-1) in the second inning, giving St. Louis a 2-0 lead.

Indians 6, Diamondbacks 2

At Phoenix, Carlos Carrasco pitched seven solid innings to lead Cleveland over Arizona.

Orlando Cabrera, who delivered the deciding home run in the series opener, had a season-high four hits. He doubled, scored twice and drove in a run as the Indians won for just the third time in nine games.

Carrasco (8-4) gave up two runs and four hits, struck out seven and walked none.

Justin Upton and Stephen Drew homered for Arizona.

Rangers 3, Astros 2

At Houston, Ian Kinsler homered twice for the first time in almost two years as Colby Lewis had another solid start for Texas.

Kinsler hit a leadoff homer and also went deep in his next at-bat in the third inning to help Texas to an early 3-0 lead.

Carlos Lee had a solo homer for the Astros, who have dropped five straight and have the worst record in the majors at 28-53.

Twins 1, Dodgers 0

At Minneapolis, Scott Baker struck out nine batters while pitching neatly into the eighth inning and Ben Revere had two hits to help Minnesota blank the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Baker (6-5) allowed six hits and walked one in 7 1-3 innings, dropping his ERA to 3.15 as the Twins bounced back from a 15-0 drubbing on Monday night to take two of three in the series.

Rubby De La Rosa (3-3) also was impressive, giving up just one run and six hits in seven innings for Los Angeles.

Revere hit a leadoff triple in the first and scored on Tsuyoshi Nishioka's groundout.

Blue Jays 2, Pirates 1

At Toronto, Yunel Escobar doubled home the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning and Brandon Morrow struck out 10 to lead Toronto past Pittsburgh.

Rookie outfielder Eric Thames hit his first career home run for Toronto, a solo shot in the sixth.

Padres 4, Royals 1

At San Diego, rookie Anthony Rizzo hit a two-run single and Tim Stauffer won consecutive starts for the first time this year as San Diego completed its first sweep this season.

The Padres scored four unearned runs with two outs in the third inning thanks to third baseman Mike Moustakas' error on a sun ball.

Cubs 2, Giants 1

At Chicago, pinch-hitter Aramis Ramirez singled in the winning run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth as Chicag snapped San Francisco's seven-game winning streak.

Sergio Romo (3-1) gave up an infield single to leadoff batter Tony Campana, who moved to second on Reed Johnson's sacrifice. After a groundout moved him to third, Ramirez hit an 0-2 pitch into left to win it.

San Francisco's Emmanuel Burris hit a leveling RBI single off closer Carlos Marmol (2-2) in the top of the ninth after Cubs starter Ryan Dempster shut out the Giants on two hits for eight innings.

Marlins 3, Athletics 0

At Oakland, California, Ricky Nolasco allowed five hits, and Hanley Ramirez and Logan Morrison homered as slumping Florida showed signs of life in a win against Oakland.

Nolasco (4-5) overcame a shaky start for his first win in more than a month, which came the last time the Marlins were in the Bay Area against San Francisco. He struck out three and walked two for his fifth career complete game.

The homers by Ramirez and Morrison off starter Guillermo Moscoso (2-4) were the first by Florida in eight days.

Norway beats Equatorial Guinea 1-0 in World Cup

AUGSBURG (AP)—Emilie Haavi finally broke down Equatorial Guinea's defense in the 84th minute and Norway escaped with a surprisingly close 1-0 win in its opening game at the Women's World Cup.

The heavily favored Norwegians had hit the post three times Wednesday and looked as if they were going to have to settle for a 0-0 draw before substitute Leni Larsen Kaurin broke free on the right and passed to Haavi low in an open center.

Captain Anonman had several clear chances for Equatorial Guinea, a nation of 670,000 in West Africa with a FIFA ranking of 61, the lowest in the tournament.

"I had a feeling we could have won the game after all," Equatorial Guinea coach Marcello Frigerio said. "The country is new to all this. It is a completely new adventure."

Brazil met Australia in Moenchengladbach in the other Group D game Wednesday.

The game could have turned as early as the second minute, but the first smooth Norway attack ended when a diagonal shot from Haavi struck the inside of the post. Lene Mykjaland also hit the post in the 55th, as did Isabell Herlovsen two minutes later.

Equatorial Guinea could have taken the lead in the 53rd when the green-braided Anonman forced a one-on-one with goalkeeper Ingrid Hjelmseth, but put the ball wide. She did likewise in the 72nd of an exciting match before 12,928 fans in a half-empty Augsburg Arena.

Norway applied more pressure in the second half, eventually resulting in Haavi's goal.

Equatorial Guinea has been rising fast in the FIFA standings and its play showed why.

Anchored by goalie Miriam and central defender Carolina, Equatorial Guinea showed off fine positioning and skills. Anonman added power and speed up front.

Equatorial Guinea was hurt right before the start of the championship when striker Jade Boho was suspended over Spanish citizenship issues. "I still think we can progress" to the quarterfinals, Frigerio said ahead of Sunday's game against Australia.

Norway's Trine Ronning, Equatorial Guinea's Dulcia and Equatorial Guinea's Carolina, from left, go for a header during the group D match between Norway and Equatorial Guinea at the Women's Soccer World Cup in Augsburg, southern Germany, on Wednesday, June 29, 2011.

AP

NBA heads to CBA deadline day, sides far apart

AP

New York Knicks' Roger Mason, left, and New Jersey Nets' Jordan Farmar, right, listen to National Basketball Players Association union president Derek Fisher, of the Los Angles Lakers, after a news conference, Thursday, June 23, 2011, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA is headed to deadline day, with perhaps one last chance to avoid a lockout.

Negotiators for owners and players will meet Thursday, about 12 hours before the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement and seemingly nowhere close to a deal.

The sides remain far apart on just about every major issue, from salaries to the salary cap, revenues to revenue sharing.

After meeting twice a week for most of the month, this is the only session scheduled this week. The two sides could continue bargaining past the deadline, but that probably requires owners to see evidence of the gap narrowing Thursday.

Otherwise, they could lock out the players for the first time since the 1998-99 season was reduced to 50 games, though Commissioner David Stern has refused to say what would happen if a deal is not done Thursday.

"We're not going to negotiate in the media," he said Tuesday after meeting with owners. "We haven't before, we're not going to do it now. We're looking forward to having our discussion with the players."

There may not be much to discuss. Players declined to offer a new economic proposal in the most recent meeting Friday, and they may still feel their previous offer to reduce their salaries by $500 million over five years is going far enough.

Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said the league didn't know if the players would make another proposal.

Both sides have moved, but not nearly far enough for the other.

Players still consider the owners' proposal for a "flex" cap, where each team would be targeted to spend $62 million, a hard cap because there is an eventual unspecified level that can't be exceeded. And though the league said total player compensation would never dip below $2 billion over the life of its proposed 10-year deal, that would amount to a pay cut for the players, who were paid more than $2.1 billion this season in salaries and benefits.

Owners have dropped their insistence that no contracts could be fully guaranteed, an issue the players strongly opposed.

"In this league, teams can easily just say, `We don't want this guy on our team anymore.'" I think the security of having that contract goes a long way because you're taking care of your family, you've got a lot of things you're doing and this is your way of living," All-Star Kevin Durant said.

"I think that's the biggest thing with us, having that security as a player, knowing coming in that you're guaranteed and you're straight. Hopefully we keep that."

Owners still want a reduction in the players' guarantee of 57 percent of basketball revenues. Players said their latest proposal would have taken them down to 54.3, but say the league's offer would have them down to around 40 percent.

The meeting Thursday will include just small groups from each side, after many players attended the last session. Without a deal, there will be no free agency starting Friday, and the summer league in Las Vegas has already been canceled.

Real games could be next to go. Stern has said the offers only get worse once a lockout has started, though there is still plenty of time even if nothing gets done Thursday.

"I don't see us missing any games. But I see it coming down to the wire, though," Milwaukee's Stephen Jackson said.

Blazers offer Oden qualifying offer

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Trail Blazers have offered former No. 1 draft pick Greg Oden an $8.8 million qualifying offer to stay in Portland.

The offer means the often-injured 7-foot center becomes a restricted free agent. The Blazers can match any other offer made for him.

Oden, 23, didn't play this past season after microfracture surgery on his left knee. He missed his rookie season in 2007-08 after microfracture surgery on his right knee. Two seasons ago he broke his left kneecap.

Because of his injuries, the former Ohio State star has played in only 82 games over parts of two seasons, averaging 9.4 points and 7.3 rebounds.

"We've stood behind Greg Oden every day since he became a Trail Blazer and that continues with today's announcement," Trail Blazers President Larry Miller said in a statement. "Despite the setbacks he's experienced, he continues to be resilient in working tirelessly on his rehabilitation. We're all very encouraged with not only his progress, but with his commitment and determination to return to the basketball court."

The Blazers had until Thursday night to make the qualifying offer. Before he was dismissed by the team last month, former Blazers general manager Rich Cho had long hinted that the Blazers would move to keep Oden. Cho was replaced in the interim by Chad Buchanan, the Blazers' director of college scouting.

If no other teams make offers for Oden and he stays with the Blazers, he will become an unrestricted free agent for the 2012-13 season.

In the 2009-10 season, Oden was averaging 11.7 points, 8.8 rebounds and 2.4 blocks as a starter and he was playing with an authority that had previously eluded him. But he broke his right kneecap in December of that season.

It appeared he would return last season, but in November it was announced that he would require microfracture surgery on the right knee.

After the Blazers selected Oden with the top pick in the 2007 draft, choosing him over Kevin Durant, he was hailed as the future of the franchise as it emerged from the so-called Jail-Blazers era.

But Oden's rookie season was postponed before it started when he had microfracture surgery on his left knee.

His numerous injuries have subjected him to endless comparisons to Sam Bowie, the frequently injured big man whom the Blazers infamously selected ahead of Michael Jordan in the 1984 draft.

Portland also extended a qualifying offer to Australian guard Patty Mills and exercised options on forward Luke Babbitt and guard Elliot Williams.

Mills, 22, has appeared in 74 games over two seasons in Portland, averaging 5.1 points, 0.7 rebounds and 1.5 assists. But he has also been a fan favorite, often flashing the team's trademark "3-goggles" with his hands after Portland scores a 3-pointer.

Goodell, Smith back in Minnesota to negotiate

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Roger Goodell and DeMaurice Smith took their new buddy act on the road Wednesday, creating a buzz among rookies in Florida then returning to Minnesota for talks to try and end pro football's labor impasse.

The NFL commissioner and the players' boss took questions from rookies at an orientation symposium in Sarasota, Fla., where recent draft picks were glad—and relieved—to see their two surprise guests.

"Guys are hurting for money right now," said quarterback Christian Ponder, a first-round pick by the Minnesota Vikings. "It's a crazy time, especially with the uncertainty of when we're going to start and get some money in our pocket."

"It's big for them to come together. I thought that was pretty cool," he said. "It looks like they have a pretty good relationship."

Smith and Goodell certainly seem closer than when the lockout began in March. Whether that will translate into a new collective bargaining agreement is the big question. Training camps are scheduled to open in just over three weeks with the Hall of Fame game on Aug. 7.

The latest round of negotiations between the two sides—the fifth since they began hopping from city to city for clandestine meetings—kicked off Tuesday in Minneapolis with Goodell, Smith, their attorneys and staffs in the room but no owners or players. People familiar with the situation said owners and players planned to join Goodell and Smith for talks Thursday and Friday. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because details of the discussion are not being released.

The location is significant because Minneapolis is where the players filed an antitrust suit against the owners and the sides tried and failed to strike an agreement through court-ordered mediation under U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan.

Smith invited Goodell to the orientation session for rookies—put on by the players' association after the NFL canceled the event—and the pair flew down to Florida on Tuesday night. After a joint breakfast Wednesday, they talked for an hour with 155 rookies.

"We felt it was important to be down here with the players," Goodell said. "This is an important few days. We're going to get back to work."

Owners and players are seeking a deal that would divide revenues for the $9 billion business—the biggest hurdle to clear—and guide league activities for years to come.

Goodell and Smith didn't have a direct answer when asked by the rookies when the impasse will end so they can meet their coaches and start their careers. Still, their joint appearance was seen as a positive sign.

"That's really the significance of this," NFL Players Association spokesman George Atallah said. "There's a lockout happening now, but we've got to look forward and consider the necessity to have a positive working relationship with the league."

Ponder said Goodell urged the rookies to be ready, whenever the lockout is lifted.

"The biggest thing he hammered home is we really have no idea when this thing is going to end," Ponder said. "But us rookies have to prepare for it. It's going to end at some point. As rookies it's our job to be prepared. Yeah, we've missed some practices, but we can't change that."

Smith said both sides are "continuing to work hard" to keep the 2011 season intact. He called the question-and-answer session with rookies "important to ensure our young men appreciated how important we think these few days are. I'm thrilled Roger could come down with us and talk to the rookies in a very good, direct way."

This spring, current players were joined in their legal fight against the league by a group of retirees led by Hall of Fame defensive end Carl Eller, who has been actively trying to organize and unite retired players in a quest to secure better benefits and medical care from the league.

Eller and his attorneys were part of the court-ordered mediation sessions—six days, in all—in Boylan's chambers in April and May, and Eller met with Goodell and some owners in Chicago earlier this month.

Shawn Stuckey, one of the attorneys for Eller's group, said the retirees, while trying to be patient, also have been disappointed to not be more involved, citing the ruling by U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson that the two cases be combined.

"We want football, and we want this to come to an amicable resolution," Stuckey said. "We don't want to be in the way of an agreement. We're well within our rights to object and say these mediation sessions are not consistent with what Judge Nelson ordered. However, we feel one of the best ways to get a resolution is to let the active players reach a resolution, and then we can reach a resolution on our issues."

Stuckey indicated, however, that Eller's group doesn't want to be left out.

"If the active players and the league are serious about getting football under way soon, they've got to start negotiating with the retirees. Even the slight chance that the season could be delayed should be sufficient enough to motivate those guys to work with the retirees, if they're serious about actually getting football played and getting it played fast."

Mami dedicates race to her 'angel'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Micronesian Games gold medalist Mamiko Oshima-Berger left for Australia yesterday to compete in the 2011 Gold Coast Airport Marathon and will be dedicating the race to her late nephew.

Oshima-Berger will be the CNMI's lone representative to the 42.195-kilometer race that will be held this Sunday in Queensland. Northern Marianas Athletics selected Oshima-Berger for the annual race after dominating Saipan's long distance events early this year and winning the 5,000m and 10,000m in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau. She received the good news from NMA in April or about a week after she heard bad news from Japan—the passing away of her nephew. Oshima-Berger's nephew, 13-year-old Chihiro, died from a tragic accident and the former had to fly to Japan to be with her family. Two weeks before Chihiro's death, he and other family members were on Saipan for a visit.

"I will be thinking of him when I race in Australia. He is one of my angels," said Oshima-Berger, who is also dedicating the race to her ever-supportive husband, Joshua.

The CNMI runner is one of the more than 20,000 from 30 countries expected to join the weekend event that will kick off tomorrow with a 5K, 10K, wheelchair half marathon, and junior dash runs. She is hoping to finish the longest race of the week in three hours.

"I want to run as fast as kangaroos do," said Oshima-Berger, who posted her best time in marathon early this year, clocking in at 3:16:14 during the 2011 Saipan Marathon. "I look forward to the so called the best running weather in Gold Coast."

Weather forecast in Gold Coast this weekend is between 17 to 19 degree Celsius or way much cooler than Saipan and Oshima-Berger was told that runners tend to run faster in the coastal city of Australia with this kind of weather.

The Gold Coast race will be one of the two remaining long distances races Oshima-Berger will be competing in this year. The last is the Lake Kawaguchi Marathon in Japan in November.

"These are two big races, but I am feeling the pressure in the race in Gold Coast, as I will be representing the CNMI," said the 41-year-old runner, who competed in a couple of short distance races and trained for months to prepare for the Australian race.

She went to Hawaii in May and won a 10K event. On Saipan last month, Oshima-Berger ruled the 4.2-mile Silver Streak run and then finished second in the Salvation Army 5K Race.

"I also had a lot of the speed workouts," she said.

Oshima-Berger

RGA July qualifier Sunday

The Refaluwasch Golf Association will be having its July Ace qualifying tournament this Sunday at Coral Ocean Point.

Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12. The tournament is open for 24 participants.

Winner of the qualifier will hold the score to beat for the next tournament and if his mark is unbeaten, he gets to win the July Ace title.

Meanwhile, RGA is reminding the monthly winners to compete in at least events this season to qualify for the club championships at the end of the year.

RGA also announced it is still open for membership at $25 annually. For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Tars Olopai at 483-5508, Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515, and Jess Wabol at 288-1129. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

MOBIL

From Page 36

lopsided Mobil win.

Marvin Rabauliman carried the torch in the first quarter, scoring eight points to help Mobil manage an early three-point lead, 17-14, in the opening period.

Smart Cagers cleaned up their defense in the second quarter though and held Mobil to just 11 points.

On offense, Errol Peredo delivered seven points which helped turned the tables on Mobil, as Smart Cagers led, 31-28, at the half.

That proved to be the last hurrah for Smart Cagers though, as Mobil overwhelmed them with an avalanche of points in the second half.

Estolas and Rabauliman teamed up for 41 markers to lead Mobil's sterling win, while Smart Cagers do-it-all forward Pete Iguel scored a game-high 26 in the loss.

Game 2 of the Mobil-Smart Cagers finals tips off at 7:30pm tomorrow at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In addition to the championship series, the regular season awards presentation will take place during halftime of the match.

Before Wednesday's finals match, a U12 exhibition game was played between some youth players from Rollers Basketball Club.

Fotten Gaga held off a late rally by Konflikt in the final minutes, 17-14. The game was played under two 10-minute halves and was officiated by U16 RBC player Keylanni Rios and U14's William Camacho.

In the youth game, feisty defense on both sides made points hard to come by in the first half as it was locked at a bucket apiece for half the period. The count shifted to 4-all at midpoint until Fotten Gaga stole the lead, 6-4, in the final minutes.

Konflikt battled back in the second frame, but Fotten Gaga's Angelo Factor strung up three consecutive buckets that led his team to victory. Factor was awarded most valuable player honors for his clutch performance.

After the youth match, QQ Car Rental president James Hann presented RBC head coach Joe Diaz with a certificate of appreciation and a brand new set of basketball nets for his club.

Just before Game 1, 10 contestants from the crowd, including Hann, participated in a cone drill buzzer-beater side game. Officials set 10 seconds on the clock and players had to dribble across the court around strategically placed cones in time and sink the shot.

RBC U16's Daryl Suarez and U18's Joshua Lizama were the only two to pull off the feat. The pair went back and forth three times until Lizama finally blinked. Suarez won a gift certificate from Hard Rock Café for his efforts.

FINALS

Mobil 90 – Estolas 21, Rabauliman 20, Sharry 16, Ruluked 15, Fernando 9, De Guzman 8, Wensceslao 1.

Smart Cagers 74 – Iguel 26, Peredo 16, Barbo 14, De Dios 10, Montano 4, Ngeskesbei 4.

Scoring by quarters: 17-14, 28-31, 63-43, 90-74.

EXHIBITION

Fotten Gaga 17 – Factor 6, Cruz 4, Fereira 4, Quiambao 2, Cruz 1.

Konflitk 14 – Rios 6, Francisco 4, Itaas 4.

Scoring by halves: 6-4, 17-14.

CNMI

From Page 36

forced its hand to just gift-wrap the match to its northern neighbors.

Regardless of the outcome of yesterday's match against the U.S. territory, the CNMI was going to face the Philippines anyway. It was pure luck then that Mother Nature helped the Commonwealth get a rest day.

The CNMI and the host share identical 3-1 win-loss cards, but the former was awarded home field advantage as a result of tiebreaker rules.

The Commonwealth won the first match, 6-2, on Monday, but fell to the Philippines, 2-3, on Wednesday.

Whichever team prevails in today's finals will advance to the Big League World Series set from July 27 to Aug. 3 in Easley, South Carolina.

Recent statistics posted on www.littleleague.org.ph show CNMI catcher Eric Tenorio leading CNMI's offense.

In the first two games, Tenorio swung 3-for-6 with three RBIs and three runs. He has also thrown out three runners thus far in the tournament. Other key notables include second baseman Elijah Aughenbaugh batting 2-for-5 with four RBIs, a run, and a stolen base, left fielder Jeremy Lizama swinging 2-for-5 with two RBIs, and third baseman Nokki Saralu batting 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run.

In pitching, Nate Guerrero gave up one earned run in four innings off two hits and three walks with three strikeouts in the CNMI's 6-1 opening day against Guam.

Joseph Palacios closed the match in three scoreless innings, giving up a pair of hits and two walks with three strikeouts.

CNMI batters scored six runs off 10 hits and an error in the game.

In its 6-2 victory over the Philippines, Joshua Jones gave up two earned runs off three hits and four walks with seven strikeouts in five and one-third innings. Dave Jones closed the last five outs of the game, giving up just one walk.

CNMI batters went through five opposing pitchers in its second matchup, scoring six runs off five hits and an error.

Statistics have not yet been released in the CNMI's 2-3 loss to the Philippines. However, pitch count results show starting pitcher Richard Dela Cruz throwing 91 pitches before Dave Jones came to the rubber and hurled 29 in relief.

MISSED

From Page 36

The CNMI and Guam are non-OFC members and both are affiliated with the East Asian Football Federation and the Asian Football Confederation. With this complication, NMIFA graciously decided to withdraw from the Pacific Games so as not cause further problems with other participating teams. NMIFA also did want to risk its application (full membership) with AFC and FIFA by joining the Pacific Games and face possible sanctions from AFC. Guam insisted on joining the competition in Noumea.

Two months after the CNMI pulled out, OFC had a change of heart and the Commonwealth was lured back.

In a report posted at the Radio New Zealand International website yesterday, OFC announced the "2012 Pacific Games will no longer form part of the qualification process for the next football World Cup and women's Olympic football tournament."

"The Oceania Football Confederation had originally planned to use the football tournaments in New Caledonia as part of the qualification process, as had been the case in Samoa four years earlier. But uncertainty around the participation of Guam, which is a member of the Asian Confederation, has persuaded the OFC Executive Committee to scale back its involvement," according to the report.

The report added that "OFC general secretary Tai Nicholas, admits it is disappointing to not be able to use the Pacific Games as a qualifying stage but says OFC had no other choice as FIFA cannot approve a FIFA qualifying event where non-OFC members are participating."

With this development, the CNMI can now compete in Noumea, but time was not on the CNMI strikers' side.

"We were given the opportunity to field a team, but NMIFA declined. It was too late to reorganize as most of our players had started their vacation off-island and we wouldn't have been able to field a competitive team. Consistent training and the lack of, given the short period of time would have been a problem," NMIFA general secretary Ed Salas said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Brad Ruszala, who was selected on the CNMI Men's Team, could not hide his frustration about the late decision.

"It's a shame that Pacific Games organizers weren't able to make that determination earlier in the process because there are a lot of players from the CNMI and Guam who were disappointed when we were shut out of the competition," Ruszala said.

For its part, NMASA respected NMIFA's decision and wished these complications will not happen again.

"NMASA stands behind NMIFA and supports its decision. We have been assured that the unfortunate situation that arose this year will not recur, and we hope that NMIFA will be sending CNMI teams to participate in the next Pacific Games," NMASA president Michael White said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	47	31	.603	—
Boston	45	34	.570	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	45	36	.556	3 1/2
Toronto	40	41	.494	8 1/2
Baltimore	35	42	.455	11 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	42	37	.532	—
Detroit	43	38	.531	—
Chicago	39	42	.481	4
Minnesota	34	45	.430	8
Kansas City	33	48	.407	10

West Division

Texas	43	38	.531	—
Los Angeles	42	40	.512	1 1/2
Seattle	39	42	.481	4
Oakland	36	45	.444	7

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	51	30	.630	—
Atlanta	47	35	.573	4 1/2
New York	41	39	.513	9 1/2
Washington	40	41	.494	11
Florida	35	45	.438	15 1/2

Central Division

Milwaukee	44	37	.543	—
St. Louis	43	38	.531	1
Cincinnati	42	40	.512	2 1/2
Pittsburgh	40	39	.506	3
Chicago	33	48	.407	11
Houston	28	53	.346	16

West Division

San Francisco	46	35	.568	—
Arizona	44	38	.537	2 1/2
Colorado	39	41	.488	6 1/2
San Diego	37	45	.451	9 1/2
Los Angeles	36	46	.439	10 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Cincinnati 4, Tampa Bay 3
Minnesota 1, L.A. Dodgers 0
San Diego 4, Kansas City 1
Atlanta 5, Seattle 3
Cleveland 6, Arizona 2
Philadelphia 2, Boston 1
N.Y. Yankees 5, Milwaukee 2
N.Y. Mets 16, Detroit 9
St. Louis 5, Baltimore 1
L.A. Angels 1, Washington 0
Toronto 2, Pittsburgh 1
Chicago Cubs 2, San Francisco 1
Texas 3, Houston 2
Chicago White Sox 3, Colorado 2
Florida 3, Oakland 0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IT&E Voyagers, Best Choice rule Budweiser 8-ball

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

IT&E Voyagers and Best Choice had different endings to their season, but that didn't prevent the two teams from finishing atop their respective divisions in the Saipan Billiards Association's Budweiser Open 8-Ball League regular season

IT&E Voyagers walked away with a 7-0 shutout win at home at Jonny's Bar & Grill over Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Shark Attack (48-78) last Tuesday night.

The victory against the Obyan Division allowed IT&E Voyagers to finish the season atop the four-member Agingan Division with a league-best 92-34 win-loss record.

Obyan Division runner-up Fotten Palau, meanwhile, upset frontrunner Best Choice of D'Pirates Bar & Grill, 4-3, at home at USSP Peleliu.

Best Choice's late falter, however, still gave the team the top seed with its overall card of 60-66. Fotten Palau improved its slate to 53-73.

In other games, IT&E Incredibles stamped out D-Pirates' Pirates (33-93), 6-1, on the road and finished second place in the Agingan standings at 87-39. Utopia Sports Bar's Docomo Hustlers finished a game behind in third thanks to the free seven points it received via a no-show by Obyan's USSP Turtles (41-85).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

IT&E Voyagers, top, and D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Best Choice finished out the Saipan Billiard Association's Budweiser Open 8-Ball Winter/Spring season atop their respective Agingan and Obyan divisions after the conclusion of last Tuesday's final matchups.

Jonny's Home Boyz (85-41) settled for fourth place, despite manhandling a two-person Obyan X-Tream (45-81) crew, 7-0, at VFW Post 3457.

Home Boyz's Mario Diola sank the 8-ball off the break twice this year, while IT&E Voyagers' Rolly Villanueva ran the table a league-best eight times.

Obyan's George Lizardo of X-Tream also sunk the 8-ball off the break twice, while teammate Chester Cuento ran the rack a division-best three times.

The SBA Budweiser Cup tournament kicks off next Tuesday for both divisions.

The Agingan semifinals take place at Jonny's between IT&E Voyagers and sister team IT&E Incredibles, while the Home Boyz take on the Docomo Hustlers.

In Obyan play, Best Choice challenges Fotten Palau at USSP Club, while Shark Attack battles X-tream at VFW.

In addition, the regular season awards banquet takes place this Sunday in Charley's Cabaret at Pacific Islands Club.

League organizers are currently accepting sign-ups for the upcoming Summer/Fall season; the deadline to register is Aug. 9.

Contact SBA secretary Warlee Ellama at 233-4397 for more information.

Sablan, San Nicolas clinch slots to SGA Ace of Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Jose Sablan and Ray San Nicolas secured tickets to the Saipan Golfers Association's club championship after winning the group's last two monthly tournaments in separate venues.

Over at Coral Ocean Point on May 22, San Nicolas bested 17 other SGA members to win the May Ace. Then last Saturday at the Marianas Country Club, Sablan defeated 22 golfers to top the June Ace tournament. Both golfers now qualify for the SGA Ace of Aces, which will be played at the end of the year and will feature the 12 monthly winners of the season.

San Nicolas ruled the May tournament after carding a net 68. The 14-handicapper shot a 40 and 42 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 82. He won by five strokes against Das Krishnan and Tony Deleon Guerrero, who carded identical net scores of 73. Krishnan won the scorecard tiebreak to take the second place, while Deleon Guerrero settled for third.

In the longest drive contests, Steve Balakrishna prevailed on the par-4 No. 6, while Mariano Fajardo topped the par-5 No. 18. Balakrishna also won in the most birdies competition with two, as six others had only one each. In the closest to the pin competitions on par-3 holes, Manny Sablan reigned on No. 3, Deleon Guerrero on No. 7, Rick Kautz on No. 12, and Krishnan on No. 14.

In the June Ace tournament, Jose Sablan had a two-stroke lead over Krishnan, as the former fired a net 70 against the latter's 72. Frank Castro completed the Top 3 with his net 74 and edged John Cruz in the scorecard tiebreak.

A 48 on the front and 43 on the back gave the 21-handicapper Jose Sablan a gross 91. Krishnan also had a 21 handicap and tallied 48 on the front, but his 45 on the back dropped him to another runner-up finish.

In other side events in last month's tournament, Ed Manibusan and Martin Sablan had longest drives on No. 2 and No. 11, respectively. Manibusan also won in the closest to the pin contest on No. 6, Kautz on No. 8. Frank Castro on No. 12, and Nick Sablan on No. 16. Sablan had the most birdies with three, while Deleon Guerrero and Jess Castro had two each.

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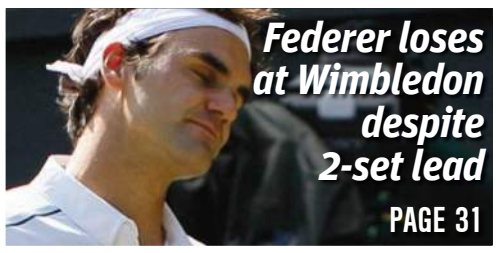

Saipan Tribune
Sports

CNMI to face PH in Big League finals

»All-stars advance after Guam concedes game

WWW.LITTLELEAGUE.ORG.PH

The CNMI Big League All-Stars huddle up on the mound during the late innings of their first game against Guam in the 2011 Asia-Pacific Regional Tournament at the Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium in Manila, Philippines. They played Guam again yesterday and won after the U.S. territory conceded.

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The CNMI Big League All-Stars advanced to the championship game of the 2011 Asia-Pacific Big League Regional Tournament after Guam conceded in the first inning of their game yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium in Manila, Philippines.

The Commonwealth will face host Philippines in the finals set today at 11am (1pm Saipan time).

Guam already lost its first three games and was out of the running for a finals berth and a rain delay before its non-bearing match against the CNMI

See CNMI on Page 34

Mobil win away from repeating as champion

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Mobil dominated Game 1 of the QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup Invitational League's best-of-three championship after demolishing Smart Cagers, 90-74, Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

After a close first half, Mobil unleashed an offensive barrage in the third quarter with point guard extraordinaire Jin Estolas leading the charge with 18 points.

In contrast, Smart Cagers were lackadaisical after the halftime break, mustering only 12 points as they took it on the chin, trailing by 20 big points, 63-43, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

Smart Cagers would never recover in the payoff period as both teams traded baskets in the final 10 minutes for the

See MOBIL on Page 34

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Mobil's Marvin Rabauliman slashes to the hoop and draws a foul from Smart Cagers in Game 1 of their QQ Car Rental caging best-of-three championship series Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Missed opportunity for CNMI strikers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

No thanks to Oceania Football Confederation's late decision, the CNMI strikers missed a chance to debut in the Pacific Games.

The Commonwealth initially committed to send men's and women's teams in the 2012 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia this August. Selection process was made, training sessions were done for months, and funds were prepared, but in April, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association through Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association was told the CNMI can't compete in Noumea, as the Games will be used as World Cup and Olympic qualifiers for OFC-member nations.

See MISSED on Page 34

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Katie Peters, left, collides against a Guam defender during their game in last year's Marianas Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Football (Soccer) 101

CORNER Kick

The *Saipan Tribune* and NMIFA is presenting this new section to our readers who do not know much about the sport of "football" or "soccer" as we call it in the United States and its territories.

The earliest form of the game soccer, based on scientific evidence, was from a military manual dating back to the second and third centuries BC in China. England, one of the world's most avid soccer countries has their historic roots in soccer dating back to at least the 8th century. We credit England with creating the modern rules of the games back in the 1800s. These rules were called the "Laws of the Game" and have evolved since then into what we now play.

Today, soccer is played at a professional level all over the world. Millions of people regularly go to football stadiums to follow their favorite teams, while billions more watch the game on television or on the Internet. Soccer has the highest global television audience of all sports and especially during the FIFA World Cup. According to a survey, over 240 million people from more than 200 countries regularly play soccer! If we look at the number of viewers/fans of soccer, we get 3.5 billion people. The entire world's population is 6.7 billion. Half the world loves this game!

Here on Saipan, we are blessed with consistent sunny weather, fresh air, a green environment, and zero air pollution. We're also glad to have the NMIFA, which stands for the "Northern Mariana Islands Football Association" which is here to develop the sport and teach the game to anyone who wants to learn.

Soccer Players' Positions

Soccer is a very easy and fun game to play. The rules are simple, and all that's needed is a ball and something to signify where the "goal" is. We'll get to the terms of the game in the next article. Let's look at some of the player positions.

Each team gets 11 players per side. The basic positions are: 1. Defenders, 2. Mid Fielders, 3. Strikers, and 4. Goalkeeper. Defenders jobs are to protect the goal from incoming strikers on the opposite team. They are the last line of defense. Mid Fielders float around the middle of the field and are good at being the first line of defense as well as getting the ball to the strikers. The strikers, or forwards, are the quickest and usually the most nimble players on the team. Strikers are responsible for moving the ball close to the opponent's goal and "striking" the ball into the goal. Goalkeepers of course are skilled jumpers and have quick reflexes to move and protect the ball from going in the goal.

For more information or on how you can join, call NMIFA at 235-0173.